THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 20TH APRIL.

THE *Englishman* thus vigorously resents a charge, brought against it by the *Statesman*, of opening its editorial columns to articles communicated by the Bengal Secretariat. "He 'presumes,' however, that our editorial note is 'an official *communique* from the Local Secretariat,' and indulges in an insulting sneer to the effect that he 'cannot believe that the *Englishman* means at this late hour to allow its columns to be prostituted to Secretariat use, in this open manner.' In this, the writer has allowed his presumption to carry him too far; his insinuation is as false as it is base and contemptible. But presumption is not the writer's most offensive characteristic. His vulgarity, saturating every syllable of the present slander, is only equalled by his ignorance, and by the audacity of his canting professions of truth and candour. He taints every subject he touches, and his enmity to a cause is much more to be desired than his support. In connexion with the Rent Bill, his wild exaggerations and delirious self-adulation went far to bring disgrace upon the opposition and to ruin the cause of the zemindars. We know of no parallel, indeed, for this full blown product of vanity and verbosity. His insane pretensions remind one, half-amusedly, half-pitifully, of the grotesque lunatics who mouth and strut under the impression that they are emperors or divinities. He is worse, however, than one of these, for, to use the pet phrase which he levels at Mr. Cross, he can be 'impudently dishonest,' and were it not for his gross personalities and his vile malicious inventions, one would be happy to leave the half-crazed waif of Indian journalism alone in his obscurity. Sir Rivers Thompson, when condemning the scurrility of the Vernacular Press in his last Administration Report, speaks very highly of the moderate tone of the local Anglo-Indian papers. The *Englishman* is the leading Anglo-Indian paper in Calcutta, and, as the public will have it, His Honor's special organ. And such being the case we should like very much to know if His Honor would be satisfied if the Vernacular Press would accept the *Englishman* for its model, and reproduce in Bengali the extract we have printed above from this day's issue of that paper. We believe no Bengali paper has as yet produced any thing so strong (is that the right word?) in as many lines. Even the *Eatanswill Gazette* of immortal memory will find it hard to collar it. We remember once reading a Yankee critic writing of his neighbour, "Priggish pedantry, fastidious dilettanteism, and the malice of professional envy, had barked and snarled themselves hoarse, the carping crew who had so incessantly yelped at his heels;" and he might, we fancy, be allowed to run on even terms with our friend of Hare Street; but we are not disposed to lay out our bottom dollar on the issue. And after all, the affairs of the world are not usually conducted with rose-water, and we do not mind a hard knock occasionally; when people think strongly, they must write strongly. But when our rulers sit in judgment over us we have a right to demand a fair comparison. Because we belong to a subject race, it is no reason why the scales should be so unequally weighted.

MR. AUGUSTUS SALA, *editor of the Illustrated London News*, was lately interviewed by a representative of a Sydney journal on his arrival at Australia, and asked his opinion about the Anglo-Russian imbroglio, he having, in addition to his vast stock of knowledge of contemporary history, visited Russia no less than six times in 25 years, on purpose to study her manners and customs. He said that England "has only to singe the bear's claws, and he will withdraw." One of his chief reasons for maintaining such an opinion is that Russia has no navy, and cannot fight at sea. He added, "she may make an unwieldly attempt to fight on land; but confront her with a British army, and she will withdraw." In answer to the interviewer's natural "why?" Mr. Sala explained:—

"The nation is thoroughly bankrupt, and the people do not know the extent of their indebtedness. A third of her paper currency has been forged by the Nihilists; tons of these forged notes are transported by them into her borders every month, and the Government dare not make any outcry upon the subject, for fear of revealing the utterly rotten condition of affairs in the country. Russia simply means aggression so long as she is not molested in her onward march; but let the British officials take a determined stand, as Lumsden has done, and then you will see her humbly retire; but at the same time you must watch her. She is treacherous and unscrupulous to a degree, and is not to be depended upon for an hour, for a minute, or a second. Her navy cannot be a formidable factor in any war, except to do a little damage in the Black Sea. Mr. Sala's opinion generally of things Russian is about as low as low can be:—'I know Russia intimately. I visited it twenty-five years ago, when I stopped there six months, and have been there five times since then. Every opportunity has been afforded me of studying the characteristics of the Russian nation, and I have formed the worst opinion of its abominable Government and of the depth and the turpitude of its designs. I hope, without any undue exaggeration, to be able to warn, not only Englishmen, but Australians, against Russia and against the evil policy of its rule."

"PUNCH," to hand by the last mail, has an unusually good cartoon. It is called "Beauty and the Beast." Mr. Gladstone is shown as a servant girl out for a walk, and to her addresses himself a rough soldier, Russia, who, drawn as a bear, figures of course as the Beast. Beauty is willing to listen, but she hesitates and says aside to herself, "Can he be deceiving me? Such a nice-spoken gentlemen!" Not an unworthy hit for Snarleyoh.

"SOCIETIES for the protection of girls from the ravaging wolves of society are familiar facts of civilisation, but there seems an element of novelty in the purposes of a Conference announced in the latest London papers. The Marquis of Lorne was to preside at this meeting, and the object in view was described to be promoting the welfare of 'friendless or *intractable* young girls.' The intractability of the female sex at large is a problem of such gigantic magnitude that one is at a loss to know where the benevolent Marquis proposes to 'draw the line.' And if a 'young lady is presented to Lord Lorne by her friends as intractable what does he do with her? What are the measures of persuasion he employs, and up to what age does he undertake the management of the girls? It is satisfactory at all events to gather from the advertisement of the Conference, in the *Times* of March 27 that the Princess is also engaged in the enterprise." We should very much like to know how our Indian reformers would answer the querries. State aid, we are afraid, will not smooth the path of our Marquis.

TUESDAY, 21ST APRIL.

THE CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* with the Boundary Commission bears the following handsome testimony to the behaviour of the native servants of Government. "In frost and snow, through sleet and mud they have trudged uncomplainingly. No doubt, their sufferings were considerably increased by the repugnance, not yet eradicated from the native mind, to carrying warm clothing. With the thermometer below zero, with rain, hail and snow continually, to pass the night in linen clothing would tax even the cold-resisting powers of an Esquimaux. Yet here were the sons of sunburnt India perversely but calmly equipping themselves day after day in the light attire customary at home, preferring bare feet to boots, and behaving generally with a disregard of the elements which would have been ridiculous, were it not pathetic. Rheumatism, frost-bites, and even death—in one instance at least—have been the penalty, and though as a rule it only increases a man's sufferings to know that he has himself to blame for them, the native servants have borne it all, in addition to the bitter hardships inseparable from winter travel in that bleak land, with an admirable fortitude which deserves to be remembered. Winter has passed away and soon, unless stirring events drive our peaceful Commission back to India, the native servants will be revelling in the heat, but their brave endurance of the cold, though past, should not be forgotten."

THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY Matriculation and Arts Examinations are over. Under the new rules, only one paper was set to the examinee every morning, and the examination lasted about a fornight. There was a protest from Dr. Birch on behalf of the Jews against sending their children to the examination on Saturday, a day held sacred by them, when they are forbidden to hold their pens; but nevertheless, the examinations went on as usual. There were 408 candidates for the B. A. degree examination, and 906 for the First Arts; the supplementary examination of last year brought down the numbers to such low figures.

WE ARE GLAD to see that our Allahabad contemporary takes a more charitable view of the Maharajah of Kashmir's case than does our Calcutta friend of the British Indian Street. He says:—"The plausibility of this idea (Russia making a diversion in the boundary, and neighbouring districts, of Kashmir) is shown by the *canard* current at Rawalpindi that a division of the troops there was to be sent to garrison Srinagar. This would be an act of folly, and the Government of India is unlikely to take any step in such a direction. The Maharaja of Kashmir may well be trusted, under the circumstances we have described, to guard his section of the frontier of India faithfully and securely, and beyond, the re-establishment of the Political Agency at Gilgit, no precautionary measure seems in the smallest degree necessary." Every sensible man would say so. Were the Government of India to try a military occupation of any portion of the *raj* Kashmir on the supposed ground of a possible Russian invasion of India through the Indian Switzerland, it would commit an unpardonable act of folly, and we know the nobleman at the head of the state is too shrewd to let such a cat out of his bag.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* thus adverts to the public feeling in England in favour of the native princes and chiefs who offered their services to Government at this crisis, and also with regard to the native press which put before the Indian public their losses and gains in the event of Russian supermacy in India. "The offers of assistance from leading Indian chiefs and princes, and the patriotic spirit displayed by the natives of India generally, have aroused a profound feeling of admiration in this country. Englishmen now feel, indeed, that their labours for the welfare and good government of India have not been in vain. The language of those portions of the Native Press which have pointed out how much is to be lost by Russian as compared with British rule has been noted with great pleasure in this country. In fact the entire spirit of friendship and fraternity manifested by the native element—especially the journalistic section—is regarded as amply justifying the restoration by Lord Ripon of the privileges of the Vernacular Press." The British public should have long discerned the unwisdom of the gagging Act; and we are glad that the British nation has been undeceived of the unimpeachable loyalty of the Native Press, notwithstanding the assertions of its enemies to the contrary.

"THE CREMATORY which was erected at St. John's, Woking, Surrey, was made use of on the 26th ultimo for the first time for a human cremation. The body reduced to ashes was that of Mrs. Pickersgill, of Clarencegate, London. It had been previously subjected to an autopsy. The deceased lady was well known in literary and scientific circles, and expressly stipulated in her will that her body should be cremated after death. With a view to this she had previously become a subscriber to the Cremation Society of England, in whose crematory the last rite was performed. The cremation lasted one hour, and was successful from every point of view." The hygenic and sanitary value of cremation of the dead cannot be overrated. It is much better to burn the dead than to bury it, and inhale the fœtid gases it exhales for a long time after the burial. It is a satisfaction for us to find that our Hindoo scripturalist is being imitated in this respect at least.

WEDNESDAY, 22ND APRIL.

"THE TASTE for oranges seems to be as decicedly on the increase in France as the taste for tea. Fifty years ago the annual consumption of oranges in the country barely reached 15,000,000lb, weight of the fruit. It had risen to double that quantity in 1856, to over 50,000,000lb, in 1866, and last year over 100,000,000lb. of oranges were imported. At one time Spain was almost the sole source of supply; but both Italy and Algeria now send their quota of the fruit to the French market, the Algerian contribution being by far the larger of the two. The exportation

of oranges from the colonies to the mother-country, which only amounted to 16,000lb. in 1836, attained the large total of 10,000,000lb. in 1884." The orange is such a heavenly fruit that no body ought to grudge spending his extra half-penny on it.

ONE PSORULLA, a celebrity of Corfu, made a will as to the disposition of his wealth, and in that will occurs the following extraordinary passage:—"At a suitable time after his death, twelve of his particular friends are to be asked to dine together over his grave, the tombstone serving them as his table. Directions are given that the dinner is to be served in the best possible style, and that all the wines, including the Champagne, are to be of the best brands." A contemporary thereupon asks, if this strange dinner will ever be allowed to take place.

M. WALDECH ROUSSEAU, French Minister of the Interior, has issued a useful circular for the information and guidance of subordinate officers to sign their names legibly. Any officer failing to do so, will for the first offence in this respect be warned, and for the second, suspended from office. We wish our Government had drawn the attention of our officers to this fact in a similar way. The origin of letter-heads is due to the hieroglyphic signatures of officials. We dare say many of our officials will fail to identify their signatures, if required. The vice does not end with the *hakims*, the ministerial officers also, aping their superior officers, put undecipherable initials on documents. It, therefore, stands to reason that some steps ought to be taken to remove the complaint.

THE PREPARATION of the decennial report of the moral and material progress of India up to 1882-83, which was entrusted to Mr. Talboys Wheeler, but who had to abandon the work for ill-health, has been made over to Mr. James Cotton, brother to Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, Secretary to the Bengal Board of Revenue, by the Secretary of State for India. The work is expected to be complete, next autumn. It was Mr. James Cotton who first drew the attention of the British public to India by his well known work, the Future of India. We hope, Mr. Cotton will again be able to throw a flood of light upon Indian affairs in the work he has taken in hand.

WE HAVE been favoured with a copy of the annual report of the Taki Hitakari Sabha. The institution came into existence only a year ago under the auspices of a few gentlemen of the place. The object of the Sabha is to spread education among the poor, and to help the needy with pecuniary assistance. From the report we find that the members are actively engaged in carrying out the objects of the Sabha, and we congratulate them on their success. We wish the Sabha long life.

THE DATE of despatch of the English Mail will be changed from the 26th May next. Instead of Friday, the Mail will leave Bombay on Tuesday from that date. The P. and O. Company's Mail Steamer will leave the port of Calcutta on Thursday instead of Sunday.

THURSDAY, 23RD APRIL.

WE ARE glad to hear that His Honor the Newab of Joonaghur has created three scholarships, with the object of sending 3 Mahomedan young men to England to complete their education. To mature his plans, and to settle the best way of disposing of the scholarships the Wazier of the State went to Bombay, perhaps to consult the Government on the point. It has been settled that Mr. G. M. Babu Meea Munghi, at present studying law in one of the Inns of Courts in London is to be one of the recipients.

ACCORDING to the *Englishman* the following are the constituents of a packet of Parisian coffee. These were "red earth, flour, coffee grounds, caramel, talc, plumbago, vermicelli, semelina powder, bean dust, carrots, bread crusts, acorns, sawdust, red ochre, brick dust, ashes, mahogany shavings, vegetable earth, and sand." What a deal of virtuous indignation would have been wasted by certain Anglo-Indian publicists, headed by the Lord of Belvedere, had such a concoction emanated from native Indian chicanery. The advocates of the Bombay Adulteration of Cotton Bill should take note of this.

SAYS THE *Indian Daily News*:—"We are able to announce that the Dock works at Kidderpore have been stopped for want of funds. The thirty lakhs of rupees which the Port Commissioners have been authorised to raise will go to pay for the amount already expended without fulfilling the conditions laid down by the Secretary of State. This has been pure waste, for which somebody ought to be held responsible. It would be well if some one in the House of Commons were to put a question on the subject which would clear up this point. The labourers employed have been dispersed, some 5,000 men in all, and the officers engaged on the work will now revert to their proper appointments. Mr. D. B. Horn, the Resident Engineer, rejoins the Public Works Department; and it is possible that Mr. D. Scott, the Superintending Engineer, may find himself transferred to Quetta." A fitting sequel to a hasty inconsiderate work in defiance of the wishes of the community. Said a Roman grammarian, 'Cæsar, thou canst give the right of Roman citizenship to man, but not to words.' The same remark applies with greater force to commerce.—No Cæsar, however great, can govern the laws which regulate its course.

WE HAVE frequently heard of the popularity of our present primier among the continental powers; and the reason for all this good-will is not far to seek. Mr. Gladstone belongs to the School of Lord Aberdeen, of whom it is said, that he detested war, and "thought it so absurd a way of settling national disputes that until the first cannon shot had been fired he could not bring himself to believe in the possibility of the intelligent English people being drawn into it." Mr. Gladstone, too, dislikes war in general, as being a most brutal and unchristian way of settling disputes, excepting of course when the opponent is a weak one—pace the bombardment of Alexandria. The principle may be good, but we should not like to see our Government going down on its knees and crying *peccavi* for averting war. In this war crisis, we should be glad to see the British Cabinet assuming a haughty attitude, and demanding of Russia, as we lately said, an unconditional apology for her trasgressions, and full compensation for reparation of the wrong done to the Amir of Afghanistan, rather than bring about a peace at any price. There are some people with whom nothing agrees so well as the adage "tit for tat."

THE TIMES OF INDIA thus discusses the reported advance of the Russians beyond Panjdeh: "The *Standard* confirms the news we received on Monday from our correspondent with the Afghan Commission as to the advance of Russian troops. Our correspondent said they were advancing 'on the Murghab;' the *Standard's* correspondent puts it 'along the Murghab,' two very different things. If the *Standard* were right it would seem that they are advancing beyond Panjdeh, which would be another signal provocation. But perhaps they are only gradually hastening up the men behind them."

FRIDAY, 24TH APRIL.

THE LONDON *Daily News* points out the absurdity of a rumour that Lord Ripon is to replace Lord Spencer as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. Lord Ripon is a Roman Catholic, and is therefore disqualified by law for the office of Viceroy. An Act of Parliament would be necessary to remove this disability. Commenting on this the *St. James's Gezette* says:—"Parliament is no doubt sincerely anxious to banish the last vestiges of religious intolerance from the Statute Book; but eager as it may be for equality before the law, we are confident that it will in its wisdom prefer almost any theoretical 'anomaly' to the practical wrong of sending Lord Ripon to repeat in Ireland the mischievous pranks he has played in Hindostan. The survival of the provision shows that Heaven has still some care for this country. Lord Ripon is so eminently unsuited for the post of Lord-Lieutenant that there can be no doubt Mr. Gladstone would appoint him if he could. Happily he cannot."

MR. JUSTICE SCOTT of the Bombay High Court sentenced one Jellani Soliman, an Arab pilgrim-broker, to two years rigorous imprisonment for having bought at Mecca a negro eunuch as slave, and brought him to India for the purpose of selling him to some Newab or Rajah.

A VERY clever case of swindling, in which an Englishman is said to have been implicated, is reported from Paris. "The other day an itinerant musician, who carried under his arm a weather-stained violin, entered a provision-shop in the Rue des Martyrs and bought a pound or two of cooked ham. Suddenly discovering that he was moneyless he left his violin with the shopman and ran home to get the trifling sum of which he was in need. During his absence a carriage drew up at the door, and a distinguished-looking stranger, having alighted from it, entered the shop and ordered a large quantity of goods to be sent to 'Lord Russell' at the Grand Hotel. While thus engaged he caught sight of the violin; picked it up with the air of a virtuoso; examined it very carefully; and finally offered to buy it for 1,000 fr. The shopman explained that the instrument was not his, but promised to see what could be done. The stranger then withdrew; and the ragged musician, who soon afterwards returned with his money, gladly accepted 800 fr. for his violin. The jubilant shopman thereupon put on his best clothes and, taking his purchase, went to the Grand Hotel. But alas! no 'Lord Russell' was known at that hostelry; and the unfortutate provision-dealer slowly awoke to the fact that he had bought an entirely worthless violin for £32."

WE quote the following from a Paris paper, to show how England is faring in the eyes of her neighbours. 'The *Republique Francaise*,' in an article on England, says "it would be in vain to endeavour to conceal it, but England has come out of recent negotiations with a singularly lowered prestige." The article goes on to say that "England unhappily for her, has lived in a sort of artificial Paradise, and has nourished herself on the glorious but superannuated traditions of Pitt, Wellington, and Palmerston. The proud boast, *Civis Romanus sum* is no longer in vogue. Hence her pretext to exclude French influence in Egypt, and her imperious action towards Russia in Central Asia. Seeing that this takes place under the consulship of Gladstone, a statesman who repudiates all Chauvinism, who prides himself on his respect for the rights of others, and who professess the most ardent love of peace, it may be asked what more could have occurred under an ultra-Jingo Salisbury Ministry." In conclusion the *Republique* says, "it is well to be patient. Before a year has passed a Parliament elected by a suffrage almost universal will have entered the House of Commons, and the foreign policy of England will be speedily changed. This will be one of the most profound revolutions of the country. Notwithstanding the prejudices on both sides of the Channel, a thorough understanding cannot be long delayed between the only two democratic nations of Europe." This is humiliating enough, and England ought to pull up, and show her enemies that her past vigor has not deteriorated.

SATURDAY, 25TH APRIL.

WE ARE GLAD to see that the Government of Bengal has accepted our recommendation by appointing Babu Bani Madhub De, M. A. to the Assistant Inspectorship of Schools of the Burdwan Division. We congratulate the Local Government on the happy selection it has made.

BABU ISSUR PROSHAD GURGA and brothers, of Moisadul, have made a donation of Rs. 500 for the establishment of a branch technical school in connection with the Midnapore Hardinge school, and have further promised to pay Rs. 5000 to be invested in Government securities for the benefit of the school. The fund that will be thus established will be designated the "Maisadul Technical School Fund."

A CONTEMPORARY mentions on the authority of the late Colonel Burnaby, and Messrs Marvin, Vambery, and Baker Pasha that Russia is full of hopes that the appearance of the Bear on the skirts of India would give the signal to a revolt throughout the length and breadth of India. No more false hopes ever possessed the breast of a nation. The Indian princes and chiefs and people have with one voice declared for England, and are quite ready to throw in their lot with their rulers. The Russian press with an unaccountable scepticism do not believe that the offers of help of the native princes and chiefs had any vein of sincerity in them. We attribute this scepticism to their ignorance of Indian character, and to an interested motive of hoodwinking the Russ public with regard to the unswerving loyalty and allegiance of the people to the British Crown. Should a war be declared, Russia will find to her cost that its belief was founded on false data, and what it had heard about the Indians was not true.

MR. JOSHI, a local poet, has sent to the *Times of India* a hundred lines in Mahrathi on the wretched state of repair in which the tomb of Sivaji at present is. Our contemporary writes:—"We consider that the tomb of the warrior who welded a few tribes into a great nation ought to be kept in a decent state of repair." We trust that Mr. Joshi's lines will have the desired effect on the Mahratta princes, whom he addressed, and we also trust that when the tomb is put into a state of thorough repair, the local authorities will see that it is properly preserved. The English could not do a more graceful act than to see that the tomb of Sivajee is properly taken care of. The tomb is at Raigurh, his favourite mountain fort, where he was enthroned two hundred years ago, and where his dashing career came to a close. Mr. Douglas, in his interesting and entertaining 'Book of Bombay,' some time ago called attention to the state of Sivaji's tomb. He wrote as follows:—'The British Government conserves the architectural remains of Tudor and Stewart, will not the Bombay Government do as

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much for the tomb, the temple, and the arch of Sivaji? A few crumbs that fall from the archæological bureau of Western India would suffice to keep in repair memorials of a dashing and most romantic period."' It is very desirable that the tombs of historical personages like Sivaji should be carefully preserved; and we hope the Government of Bombay will listen to the prayer of Mr. Joshi.

THE LAHORE correspondent of the *Englishman*, adverting to the stabbing case at Lahore, says that the chowkidar, who made a declaration immediately after receiving the wound that he was stabbed by an Irish private Sullivan, has recanted, and in his second declaration said that he stumbled against Sullivan who had his bayonet fixed, and thus got wounded. As far as the chowkidar is concerned, so far so good. It may be that the fellow in his extreme sufferings may have, in a delirious fit, tackled the name of Sullivan to the act. But what about the witnesses who deposed that they saw Sullivan stabbing the man, and unless there was a sympathetic delirium in them too, they could not have made such a statement. We are sorry that the correspondent of our contemporary has allowed the latter fact to remain wholly unexplained.

REGARDING the stagnancy of the proselyting mission of the Christians the noble lay-Padri, Lord Radstock, observed:—"The great obstacle to the work of the Lord among the Natives is the godless lives of the Christians so-called. Here many spend their Sunday in lawn-tennis &c." It may be quite true. But His Lordship ought to have borne in mind that esoteric Brahminism as much relieves the spiritual hunger of the natives as does the teachings of Jesus Christ.

THINGS seem not to be getting on so satisfactorily with the Punjab University as could be wished, if the charges involved in the following extract from a letter published in the *Civil and Military Gazette* be well founded. Our contemporary of the Lahore *Tribune* should throw some light on the subject. (1.) That an explanation is due to certain donors for spending the donations contributed by them in 1883 for a die, a prize, and for dies and medals respectively, on the current expenditure of the University. (2.) That an assurance be conveyed to these donors, that every effort will be made to restore the amounts in question to their original intention. (3.) That the Syndicate express their disapproval of the subscriptions of certain other donors having been spent in the current expenditure of the University, instead of being invested as directed by special Resolutions of Senate and the tenour of the statutes and rules. (4.) That the Senate be removed to return the donations given for proficiency in the Gyani examination, if that examination cannot be held under the present regulations; or else to order it to be held as was formerly the case, and also to return the donations given for Gurmukhi teaching and scholarships, if such teaching and scholarships cannot be allowed under the rules at present in force; and if, as in the case of the object of one of the donations, the scholarships cannot be given to successful candidates at the Buddhiman and Widwan examinations, the same not being now held."

THE TOTAL number of deaths registered during the week was 253 against 341 and 320 in the two preceding weeks and 175 less than the corresponding week last year. Under the head of cholera there were 76 deaths against 96 and 101 in the two preceding weeks. It is satisfactory to find that the mortality from this disease shows a tendency to decrease instead of ascending to the high level that was reached in the corresponding weeks of the two previous years.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, April 23, Midnight.—Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question in the House of Commons this evening, said that Government was engaged in a correspondence of extreme gravity with Russia, and that it was therefore inexpedient to make any statement to the House on the subject at present.

23.—An explosion, supposed to be from dynamite, took place to-day at the office of the Secretary's Department at the Admiralty. Mr. Swainson, Assistant Secretary, was seriously injured.

24.—Sir Vernon Harcourt, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that the dynamite placed in Mr. Swainson's room was of a small quantity, and that but slight damage had been done.

24.—The *Daily News* publishes a paragraph stating that the only hope of the maintenance of peace is in a possible arrangement for the delimitation of the Afghan frontier, and it is not yet altogether without hope that the correspondence between the two countries may lead to an understanding.

St. Petersburg, April 23.—The *Journal de St. Petersburg* publishes an article to-day, stating that Sir Peter Lumsden's account of the Panjdeh affair is derived from Afghan sources, and that the Russian Government relies upon the report furnished by General Komaroff. The article adds that a polemic upon the subject is useless if an understanding between the two Governments is desired. It hopes to see Lord Granville's wish for a peaceful settlement realized.

Cairo, April 24.—The French Consul General has had an interview with the Khedive. In accordance with the instructions from the French Government, the diplomatic relations have been broken off. The Consul General left to-day.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1885.

THE RAWAL PINDI CONFERENCE.

THE result of the recent conference, at Rawal Pindi, between Lord Dufferin and the Amir Abdur Rahman is still a profound secret. It was of course to be expected that the Foreign Office should preserve the strictest official secrecy as to this matter. But weighty issues depend on the conference which has just terminated at Rawal Pindi, and speculation is naturally rife as to the nature of the understanding which is said to have been arrived at between the British Government and the Ruler of Afghanistan. The inspired writings in the columns of the semi-official *Pioneer* will enable those who can read between the lines to form a tolerably correct idea of the result of the recent conference. We may take it for granted the Amir Abdur Rahman has been fully impressed with the immense power, resources and grandeur of the British Empire; but that does not necessarily show that he is quite ready to fall in with the views of our Government in regard to defending his country against Russian aggression. It will be remembered that when Abdur Rahman took up the Amirship of Cabul five years ago to the great relief of the British Government which had become sick and weary of the whole Afghan business, he was assured by Sir Lepel Griffin that he would be subsidised liberally in order to enable him to consolidate his power in Afghanistan, and to bring the whole country into subjection. He was at the same time given to understand that the British Government would, under certain conditions, be prepared to protect his dominions from unprovoked Russian aggression. These assurances were repeated three years afterwards when a fixed subsidy of 12 lakhs a year was granted to the Amir. In his letter of June 16, 1883, notifying the grant of the subsidy to the Amir, Lord Ripon explained to Abdur Rahman his relations with India. His Lordship wrote:—"My view of the relations to each other of the two countries has throughout been that, in matters of internal policy [illegible] finance, India should not seek to interfere with Afg[illegible]n, but should confine herself to the part of a friendly [illegible]bour and ally. On these conditions, it would be in accordance with the practice of nations that Afghanistan should regulate her own finances and bear her own burdens, as she has already done hitherto. As regards matters of external policy, your Highness was informed in the communication from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 20th July 1880, and again in my letter of the 22nd February, 1883 that if any foreign Power should attempt to interfere in Afghanistan, and if such interference should lead to unprovoked aggression on the dominions of your Highness, in that event the British Government would be prepared to aid you to such extent and in such manner as might appear to the British Government necessary in repelling it, provided that your Highness follows unreservedly the advice of British Government in regard to your external relations." Lord Ripon, while giving these assurances to the Amir, wisely declined to conclude a formal treaty with him. His Lordship felt that to bind the Afghans to any exact engagements would be the height of folly. Treaty obligations may be imposed upon the Amir, but his unruly subjects will go their own way.

It was generally expected that the natural result of the Rawal Pindi Conference would be the embodiment of the mutual obligations between England and Afghanistan in a formal treaty. But this expectation has not been realized. Lord Dufferin has, to our thinking, acted wisely in treading in the footsteps of his predecessor in this matter. What has, then, been the result of the recent conference? The *Pioneer* gives us the following information on the point:—"From what we have already written on the subject, our readers will have gathered the nature of the change that has come over our policy as the result of the recent conference. The development is singularly contrary to popular anticipation, which generally judged the Rawal Pindi ceremonies as a prelude to the opening of the road through Kandahar and the speedy departure of horse and foot for the Herat frontier. Far from this, however, the understanding arrived at seems *to have loosened the mutual obligations between England and Afghanistan* rather than to have drawn *them closer*. The integrity of Afghan territory, if it is no longer respected by Russia, will be sedulously respected by us. The subjects of the Amir have a prejudice against the presence of foreign troops, even as allies, on their soil; the Amir himself could not answer for the consequences if we should go to help him; and accordingly we are going to intrude. *Our task will be to watch the conflict, and come in when the Afghans want us.* When he is really in extremities, the Amir has signified that he would have no objection to our coming to his assistance. In the meantime what he requires is, *is not us, but arms, ammunition and money.* Two of his requirements he has obtained, and the third he has in all probability been promised. It is not altogether surprising that the telegrams report him to have departed satisfied." The italics in the above passage are ours. When it was announced that Abdur Rahman was coming on a visit to the Viceroy, we said in the plainest terms that the Amir would not agree to the presence of Englishmen in his dominions, and we strongly recommended Lord Dufferin not to insist upon His Highness's receiving them in Afghan territory. At the Peshwar Conference of 1877 between Shere Ali's Minister and Sir Lewis Pelly, Lord Lytton was earnestly implored to abandon the idea of placing British officers in Afghanistan; and if after this His Lordship had not persisted in reducing the Amir to the position of a protected Indian prince, we should have been spared the useless and costly second Afghan War. It cannot be too carefully borne in mind that our two unjustifiable wars have made an honest alliance with the Afghans an utter impossibility. Say what the British Government may, the Afghans will never be convinced of the honesty of its purpose. No amount of assurances or pledges, however solemn, will have any effect in removing their suspicions. The *Pioneer* has now realised the fact that the subjects of the Amir have a prejudice against the presence of Englishmen as allies, on their soil. But our contemporary could not understand this simple thing when into the arms of Shere Ali to throw himself sun at noonday that no ruler as clear as the can be expected to accept the position of a protected Indian prince. In so far as the negative result of the recent conference is concerned, we may well congratulate Lord Dufferin on its success. But it will naturally be asked—has it done any positive good? So far as we are now in a position to judge, this question must be answered in the negative. It is all very well to say that a complete understanding has been arrived at between the Government of India and the Amir. Too much importance is attached to the emphatic declaration made by the Amir in open Durbar to the effect that the Afghan will stand side by side with the English in any conflict in Central Asia. But has Abdur Rahman, we should like to ask, any right to speak in the name of the Afghan people in this way? The ruler of Afghanistan may coquet with England or Russia, but his unruly subjects will go their own way. The *Pioneer* tells us the Amir believes that Afghanistan would be capable of resisting any force that Russia could immediately bring against him and that he is perfectly willing to countenance our advance in case of serious reverses. We doubt very much whether Abdur Rahman, even with the money, arms and ammunition supplied to him by the Government of India, would be able to resist Russian aggression for any length of time. The result of the recent fighting at Panjdeh shows that the ill-disciplined troops of Afghanistan are no match for the trained soldiers of Russia. Then the Afghans know very well that Russia has conquered the Khanates of Central Asia. We are not prepared to admit that in the event of a deliberate

Russian invasion the Afghans could be left to defend themselves. The *Pioneer* says our task will be to watch the conflict and come in when the Afghans want us. But suppose the Afghans did not want the English, what is to be done in that case? We must not forget that Abdur Rahman had been many years a pensioner of Russia, and a suspicion of his leaning towards that Power cannot be dismissed. Many people hold that the Amir is cleverly playing the game of Russia. Without going so far as that, we cannot shut our eyes to what Sir Lepel Griffin wrote on his famous letter to the *Times* dated 15th March 1883:—"The Ameer, whom we placed on the throne in August 1880, is no more friendly than his predecessors were, and Russian intrigue is as unceasing and audacious to-day in Afghanistan as it was in the days of Shere Ali." If so, how can we persuade ourselves to believe that the Amir will countenance our advance in case of reverse? Until we get full information as to the nature of the understanding which has been arrived at between the Viceroy and the Amir, we cannot definitely say whether the arrangement concluded is satisfactory or not.

MR. MANDLIK ON MARRIAGE REFORM

WE are indebted to a friend for a copy of a letter lately addressed by the Hon'ble Rao Sahib Visvanath Narayana Mandlik to J. Monteath Esq., Under-Secretary to Government, Bombay, on Mr. Malabari's two Notes on marriage reform among the Hindus of India. Mr. Mandlik is a gentleman of vast erudition, extensive experience, sound judgment, and by instinct and habit a thorough patriot. He has in him in an eminent degree many of those qualities of the head and the heart which made his nation famous in the annals of India since the days of renowned Sivaji———a nation which had all but completely wrested the sovereignty of India from the Moghuls, when a higher power intervened, and altered the course of history. A Sanskrit scholar, a thorough master of the English literature, and a distinguished lawyer, singularly free from local prejudices and narrowness of mind, he worthily represents the Marhatta nation in the counsels of the British Government. He is the last man to be caught by the glamour of words and the canting shibboleths of our canting age. His opinions, therefore, on questions of social reform among our community claim the highest consideration. And we make no hesitation in laying before our readers his views on the "widowhood" subject of the so-called "now existing among and "Hindus." He writes with great force and frankness, at times, perhaps, sacrificing moderation and sobriety of tone for the sake of emphasis;—but always with perfect sincerity and abundant, logical precision. As we have already written several times about Mr. Malabari's Notes, we need not now do more than quote a few of the more salient points in the letter under notice. Mr. Mandlik opens his letter by repudiating the pretension of Mr. Malabari to sit in judgment on the condition and customs of his Hindu neighbours. He says:

> The writer of the above notes, Mr. Malabari, is not a Hindu. And although the Hindu system is so catholic that some of the oldest works thereon receive the wildest tribes, like the Shabaras, within its folds, and although it is so tolerant that it leaves people of all races and creeds free to worship God according to their own beliefs, yet no one but a Hindu can possess that intimate knowledge of the Hindu Shastras, and the daily observances enjoined therein, which is essential in any writer who attempts to prepare papers on the questions now placed before Government. And I must distinctly say that the writer in the present case (so far as his papers show) appears to have no qualification whatsoever to sit in judgment upon the entire Hindu community of India, of whose customs and practices he seems to know nothing, and could but know very little. He gives no authority for any of his statements, and, beyond a cloud of words and the free use of imputations of all manner of crimes and follies to the Hindus, there is little in the papers that renders them attractive and there is still less that which entitles them to be, regarded as state documents. They are, besides, full of contradictions and sophisms.

Adverting to the earnest desire of our juvenile "Luthers of rose and lavender" to secure the co-operation of Government in carrying out domestic reforms, Mr. Mandlik delivers himself with a degree of keenness which cannot but recall to mind a worthy representative of the race of Sivaji:

> The present scheme for cajoling or worrying India against its own convictions into compliance with the notions of misinformed visionaries is more audacious and mischievous, for we are to have Members of Government on the roll of patrons. One can scarcely disguise a feeling of contempt at such an exhibition of moral helplessness and feebleness as running up to Government for the amelioration of every social evil, real or imaginary. I cannot, I regret, accept with complaisance the compliment which the present writer impliedly gives to the Hindus as being so utterly incapable of self-action. Such a supposition argues ignorance of history, past and present. The Hindus have never lost their originality through countless revolutions and varying cycles of time. Has the effect of English education which has brought them into contact with Milton and Shakespeare, Wordsworth and Tennyson, Goldstucker and Muller, and their worthy compeers in the republic of letters, so enfeebled their intellect as to make them forget their own Bhishma and Bali, Vasishta and Janaka, and other illustrious ancestors and lose their own self-respect?
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> In his revised note dated the 23rd October 1884, Mr. Malabari gives it as his conclusion that the educated classes and all sensible Hindus are quite unable to help themselves without the aid of some authoritative regulation. This is a cheap form of casting the slur on my fellow Hindus of being too imbecile to regulate their own concerns. Himself not being a Hindu he may be quite safe in regard to his own position, but so far as Hindus are concerned I beg to decline his patronage with my best thanks.

Entertaining the views he does it is not remarkable that Mr. Mandlik should totally condemn the four expedients which Mr. Malabari propounds for the promotion of widow remarriage. The second expedient is official enquiry as to the wishes of widows, and Mr. Mandlik thus condemns it in *toto*:

> As regards the second proposal a mere statement of it is enough to show its wild and chimerical character. How is Government to ascertain, whether a widow has adopted perpetual seclusion, or whether it has been forced upon her? Are the Magistrates to be empowered by law to pay domiciliary visits and set up a social inquisition into the sacred hearths of Hindu families throughout India? I would most seriously recommend Government to consider the... Hindus to advertise their the... affairs? They (male and female) are constitutionally averse to discuss them except in their own ways, and in their own families. They are quite prepared to do as they would be done by, and I beg most respectfully and yet emphatically, that they should be left alone in the free exercise of their own rights. In one part of the paper it is said that the widows are so far advanced that they set forth their grievances "in prose and verse, in odes and elegies, in piteous appeals and memorials to the Collectors of the districts, and the mother-Queen." If so, this second proposition is a contradiction in terms. A woman, who has advanced so far, is surely free to dispose of her own person as she pleases. There is no law that I know of standing in her way, nor is there any unlawful social combination throughout the country, which she could not legally put down by an appeal to the nearest Magistrate or Subordinate Judge. The fact of the matter, if I may so say, is that this overdrawn picture has its archetype only in the imagination of the writer. There is a general belief amongst Hindu women that a second marriage by a widow imperils the future happiness of both her own and her deceased husband in heaven. To secure this happiness is the object of the *Savitri* observances all over India, to which I have already referred; and I know of no State machinery which can be effectually employed to counteract this universal by prevailing sentiment.

On the subject of prosecuting priests who fulminate bulls of ex-commination, Mr. Mandlik says:

> The fourth proposition is one the answer to which has been almost anticipated in the course of the above observations. I beg to add that the principle underlying this is open to serious objections, founded on the highest considerations. Ex-communication generally follows a caste-meeting and the common deliberations of its members, and whether it is the *Chaudhri*, or the *Panchanai*, who gives effect to the fiat of the community, (for no learned priest *ever* goes about, to my knowledge) he is no more guilty than any other member of the body to which he belongs. If the ex-communication is wrong and actionable, no doubt those who proclaim it will deserve punishment; but the *bona fide* assertion by a caste of their own rights for their own protection is not only allowable and allowed in practice, but the assertion of the opposite doctrine denying to the members of a caste the power which they undoubtedly possess, of expelling from their society those who offend against their rules, would be tantamount to depriving such bodies of the right of determining what people they will associate with themselves in their social circle. Freedom of action has been secured to the Hindu widow by law. She is now free to do as she pleases. No one can touch her *statutory* rights. But the Hindu castes only seek to exercise their own freedom in matters which they consider as pertaining to their own religion and society, and they have a right to insist that the uniform, and in this respect fundamental, policy of the state should never be departed from.

With excusable, nay justifiable, pride Mr. Mandlik thus delivers himself about the life of a renowned Hindu widow whose life we all so venerate:

> The Hindu community may have its shortcomings; but, with submission, it need not fear its detractors, whoever they may be. Leaving the past (the memory of which is scrupulously preserved by the daily practices of the people,) if a modern Ahalyabai at Indore could dispense justice like Dharmaraja from behind the *purda*, could strike terror into the hearts of neighbouring princes by plain letters, and yet could so sanctify her life as to make her shrine an object of devotion to her votaries at the present day, the widows of India are in excellent company, and need no lecture from the present writer.

On the subject of Infant Marriage Mr. Mandlik is equally decisive, but we regret we have not space at command to follow him *serialim*. On the remedy suggested in connexion with the Universities, he observes:

> The writer does not say how he is going to dispose of Mahomedans, Jains, Buddhists and other persons who do not profess Hinduism. What are to be the new formularies and articles of admission to degrees, and how is the diversion of state funds for social proselytism and indirect religious persecution to be defended by a state—whose foundation is based on the grand principles of social and religious neutrality and complete toleration? I think such a proposal would be foreign to the laws which guide our Universities, and must be rejected. All aspirants to University honors will be admitted, if they are young men of good character. I am unable to encourage Mr. Malabari in the hope that the adoption of his suggestions would be welcomed by leaders of native society in India.

One point on which much has been made of late by our would-be reformers is the minimum limit of age, and, in regard to it, the history of civilization seems, to be entirely against them. Mr. Mandlik shows—

> That the "age of consent," which is all that is required for marriages (where consent is necessary), is twelve for females and fourteen for males even in such advanced countries as the United States of America. In New York, an attempt was made to raise these periods to fourteen and seventeen respectively, but they were so disrelished by the people that a law was passed in 1830 restoring the old periods of twelve and fourteen as before. In the old Hindu institutes the marriageable age for females is twelve; but that for males has been contracted by the gradual curtailment of student life, and a change in the social usages of the people. As I have said before, the system has not apparently injured those who have lived properly under it. I am not sure that (as far as my studies go) the same is not in force in many other countries. But were the case different, this is not a matter for Government to interfere with in the case of Hindus, for with them marriage is not a contract but a religious sacrament, and as such it is one of the most valued corner-stones of the foundation of Hindu society. If in human hands a few failures appear to have occurred, the system cannot on the whole be said to have been without any beneficial results in actual practice. If it is complained (as it seems to be) that over-population results from early marriage, it occurs to me that this is not only not borne out by facts, but that the reasoning is inconsistent with that alleged wretched physical deterioration of which it is supposed to be the cause. Is physical deterioration the cause of over-population? Again, in the next paragraph, where Mr. Malabari cries down the "Let-alonelists," he is again lost in a jungle of words. If the people feel the necessity of avoiding such evils as are here depicted, I have no doubt they will act under it. But I do not exactly see how a class can be puffed up

and cried down in the same breath as seems to be done here. If Mr. Malabari will not trust to education, I regret I cannot agree with him. I decline to believe in educational talismans which will work like the magician's wand. Institutions must grow, and so must habits ; they cannot be imported at the bidding of any body,and it would not speak much either for our advancing education or for our moral courage if the Hindus did not know how to regulate their own domestic economy. This is with reference to the higher classes. With regard to the lower ones, to say that early marriage obtains most widely amongst the most illiterate mass, is to betray the writer's own want of knowledge of the bare facts of the case.

THE LANDHOLDERS' MEETING OF THE LAST WEEK.

THE meeting at the rooms of the British Indian Association on Monday last was an eminent success. The Hall was crowded by representative men of all sections of the landholding community. The various Associations of landholders in the country sent their delegates. The Dacca Association was represented by a well-known pleader of the Local Bar and an experienced Vakil of the High Court. Mr. St. Clair Grant, one of the most influential and intelligent European landholders of Bhaugulpur, appeared as a delegate from his brother Zemindars of that important Division, Mr. Bryce fulfilled the same functions with regard to Monghyr. The princely house of the Nawabs of Begunbari deputed their Manager Mr. Weatherall, while each of the ancient territorial chiefs of Behar had his proxy. In short there was hardly a district of any note, the views of whose landed interest did not find a living exponent in the informal parliament which met to discuss a question of survival or extinction in the new agrarian dispensation promised by the Tenancy Act.

The preliminary remarks from the chair were a model of good sense. "At a crisis like this" rightly observed the Maharaja Norendra Krishna, "when the political horizon is deeply overcast, and the prelusive sounds of a collision between the Great Powers come to us across the frontiers, far be it from us to do anything which might hamper Government, and wear even the semblance of a recusant demonstration"—but," as he rightly went on to say, "the deepest loyalty and the most devoted attachment to the British rule were not inconsistent with an earnest, respectful and humble appeal to the British Throne and the British people."

The measured words of Babu Joykissen Mookerjee, the nestor of the Association, whose intellect is still green amidst the infirmities of age, were, as truly observed by our contemporary of the *Englishman*, "weighty and incisive." The landholders hold their estates under a system in which not only is the uttermost farthing exacted by the terrors of a sunset law, but in which the obligation of collecting Government cesses is saddled upon them as a gratuitous obligation, and enforced with bloody severity. In an evil moment and at an unlucky hour, the landholder prays to have some facility for the collection of his rents and dues.And the great Jove of the Indian hierarchy, in the plenitude of his mercy, blackens his character, destroys his influence, confiscates his income, showers upon the land a plague of the evils of litigation and immersed him more deeply still in the mire of difficulties. "We asked for bread" bitterly said another speaker "and the Government gave us stone."

Babu Umarendro Nath Chatterjee's speech was able and eloquent; he shewed that read between the lines the provisions of the Act amounted to nothing less than confiscation, and that the cruelty of this wrong was multiplied as the majority of the present landholders had invested their capital on the faith of the promises held by the British nation through the Government of Lord Cornwallis. He then dwelt on the political aspect of the question,and pointed out that once the notion got abroad amongst the princes and the people of India, that solemn State pledges were unstable as water, the situation would be environed with difficulties.

One remarkable circumstance which was observable in the meeting, was the hopeful spirit which evidently inspired all present. Long years of opposition have not abated one jot of the strength of will which made itself felt when the charm of national indignation rose from the Town Hall on the 19th of December, 1883. Speaker after speaker reflected the sentiments of the audience in expressing the most unflinching determination to carry the war to England, to lay their grievances before the footstool of the throne, and before the great ministers of the Empress as also before the generous and philanthropic statesmen of all parties.

The deepest gratitude and the warmest thanks of the landholders are undoubtedly due to Lord Salisbury, the Earl of Wemyss and March, Earl Fortescue, Lord Bramwell, Sir Herbert Maxwell, and Messrs. Buckland, Dacosta, Cornell, Lethbridge and other distinguished Peers and gentlemen who have so generously taken an interest in this matter, and catholicized their sympathies with their Indian fellow-subject.

We give in a suppliment a full report of the proceedings of the meeting.

THE CRISIS.

THAT most sensitive of political barometers, the money market, underwent repeated fluctuations during the past week. The fours were, early in the week, down to 8 per cent. discount. The prospects of peace which Mr. Gladstone's statement held out, rallied the market to a considerable extent in the middle of the week, but on Saturday the rates were again falling, the quotation for fours being 7-12. Consuls in England underwent similar fluctuations, and the message on Friday morning described the market as falling. The French rentes also indicate a similar tendency. These facts clearly show that the clouds are thickening and not dispersing. Political intelligence is in perfect keeping with these facts. The telegrams during the earlier part of the week were all in favour of peace.The promised despatch from St. Petersburgh was repeatedly announced to be of a peaceful character. Mr. Gladstone did not believe in the condemnatory reports of Sir Peter Lumsden ; he wired for further details, and M.Lessar played his part most adroitly in allaying irritation. The Russian press, at the same time, kept itself busy in circulating pleas, excuses, explanatory bunkum, and general whitewashing of ugly facts to an extent that gave to the atmosphere a pacificatory aspect. But no real progress has been made towards an amicable settlement of the difficulties that have arisen. The long expected despatch from M. de Giers is far from being so conciliatory as was expected. It entirely exonerates General Komaroff from all blame in breaking the peace at Panjdeh. It iterates that the General's reports "afford full and ample justification of the attack, which was undertaken to resist the aggression of the Afghans." M. de Giers "adverts to the presence of the Boundary Commission in the debatable territory, and complains that the force accompanying Sir Peter Lumsden is excessive for escort purposes"—facts which had hitherto no unpleasant signification and called for no animadversion. He likewise takes exception to the language attributed to Lord Dufferin at the Rawal Pindi Conference. "He complains that His Excellency's utterances are calculated to encourage the Afghans to do acts of hostility which might provoke the Russians to make reprisals." The telegrams add that "the Russian Government have refused to make any further enquiry into General Komaroff's statement regarding the Panjdeh affair," or "to give any permanent guarantee with respect to the frontier." On the other hand Sir Peter Lumsden's further despatches, apparently those in reply to the call for further explanation, reiterate his statement that the Afghans gave no provocation to the Russians.

The latest telegram on the subject (that of the 23rd) runs thus: "A special telegram to the *Bombay Gazette*, from London, on Wednesday, says that the *Standard* announces that the Government, on receipt of Sir P. Lumsden's statement with details of the encounter on the Khushk, demanded a disavowal by the Russian Government of General Komaroff's action on that occasion. Sir P. Lumsden's later accounts of the origin of the affair confirm his original report, which is a flat contradiction to that of General Komaroff, and the negotiations which are now going on between the English and Russian Governments in regard to the incident are attended with great difficulty. Sir P. Lumsden has sent a full and circumstantial account of the incident, in reply to the inquiries which the Government addressed to him soon after his first report reached England. He shows clearly that General Komaroff had no excuse whatever for attacking Panjdeh, which was weakly defended, and that the Afghans, in face of much provocation, exercised the greatest possible forbearance. He contradicts General Komaroff's statement that the Afghans had committed any acts of hostility against the Russians, or that they had advanced from their former positions. He explains that the Afghans had always occupied the left bank of the Khushk, and that they did not cross the river to that bank with a view to menacing General Komaroff's force. GeneralKomaroff,on the other hand,had frequently attempted to provoke the Afghans to commit an act of open hostility, and, finding that they were determined to remain strictly on the defensive, he advanced against them, and thus forced on the fight. It is understood that the English Government have sent a vigorously-worded despatch on the subject."

This has been met by the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, a Government organ, with the diplomatic device that Sir Peter's account of the Panjdeh affair is derived from Afghan sources, and therefore are not so reliable as that of General Komaroff. It adds significantly "that a polemic upon the subject is useless if an understanding between the two Governments is desired." At midnight on the 23rd, Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that "Government was engaged in a correspondence of extreme gravity with Russia, and that it was therefore inexpedient to make any statement to the House on the subject at present." The only hope of peace under the circumstances rests on the forbearance of the English nation, and the well-known capacity of Mr. Gladstone to cave in before a powerful enemy. The English Cabinet has always evinced an uncommon degree of tenderness for "Muscovite susceptibilities," and it would by no means be remarkable if, in the plenitude of that feeling, it would be prepared to forget that it settled the terms of the *statu quo ante bellum*, that it strictly forbade the Afghans to move beyond the places which they had occupied before the arrival of the Commission on the scene of action,and that it advised them to resist aggression—an advice which has resulted in the slaughter of 900 human beings, all its own allies. This is however not difficult. The concession is not nearly so great to make as the condonation of the massacre on Majuba Hill, and if reasonably permanent peace could be secured by it, we should be the first to advocate it. The horrors of a general war with so stern and doughty a foeman as Russia are so great that we should not for a moment hesitate to accept the condonation for the sake of peace. But we cannot cherish the hope for peace from such a condonation. When at the beginning of the present century the doctrine of balance of power was first made a cardinal principle of international politics, it at once set aside the fear of the powerful preying on the weak inEurope,and a long prosperous peace reigned everywhere ; but with the second half of this century narrow counsels have prevailed in the Court of St. James, and at an evil hour Prussia and Austria were allowed to prey on the weakness of Denmark, and to snatch Schleswig and Holstein from it. This spoliation was followed by that of the smaller states of Germany and of parts of Austria. Next followed the detaloning of France and the partitioning of a great part of European Turkey. Had England and France then been united,no mischief would have resulted; but the little morsel of Cyprus was too tempting for the hero of "peace with honor," and now balance of power is all but entirely lost in Europe, and no single power can cope with Russia or Germany with a fair prospect of success. England now finds it convenient and expedient to put up with many a rebuff from Russia. All is, however, not lost yet. The glory and might of England still exist, and a firm, liberal

and comprehensive policy energetically carried out will for certain redeem lost ground. Russia has to bear Germany always in mind. She has German provinces within the boundary of her empire, and any day the loss of her *prestige* might encompass the loss of those provinces. She is well aware of this, and, however much she may bluster and brag, she will fight shy of a war that might compromise her power and *prestige*. And it rests with the English Cabinet to decide at the present crisis whether it will "allow the Bear to jockey the Lion," or by a firm attitude and determination to fight, if need be, and knock out her pretensions for many a year to come. John Bull is for this manly, noble course, and we sincerely hope he will prevail over the vacillating, time-serving, narrow-minded policy of the ministry. The ultimatum should be either immediate apology for the insults given and injury done, and withdrawal from Panjdeh before any boundary question is decided, or war. It would be infinitely better for England and India to fight out the question at once, than to forbear and truckle and submit to the demands of a haughty, overbearing, unscrupulous foe which will place Her Majesty's Empire in a worse position than what it is now. Soon or late there will be a general war in Europe. The unwieldy armies collected by the first class powers cannot long sit idle; a collision must come on; and then England will find herself in a very unsatisfactory position with Russia standing close beside the gate of her largest dependancy. Such a contingency should, if possible, be avoided, and it can be avoided by a duel now between England and Russia, when England has every advantage on her side, and no immediate European complication is likely to take place, at least, barring the little French tempest in a tea-pot about the *Bosphore-Egyptien* newspaper, no indications are visible of such a complication.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

WE CONGRATULATE the trading community of India on the abandonment by Government of the project for a Value Payable Parcel Post between India and the United Kingdom. The scheme just published is limited to a Parcel Post, the cost being limited to a shilling per pound.

OFFICIAL School-examiners are noted for their perverse ingenuity in manufacturing grammatical puzzles. And nowhere is this peculiarity more noticed than in the worthy dons who are annually selected by the Syndicate of the Calcutta University for the torture of the rising generation of Bengal. For some time this has become quite a scandal. An attempt was made some four or five years ago to put it down through the medium of a body of Moderators. But it has failed altogether. In the question paper this year, we have, among other puzzles, the following:—"Give the feminines of John, Charles" &c. We leave it to the good sense of the Moderators to say how far this is covered by the rule which says "candidates are expected to be acquainted with English as written in the present day, in its simpler forms," presuming of course that *John* and *Charles* are English common nouns, and they are subject, in forming their faminines, to some rule or other of the English Grammar as taught in Bengal. It is not difficult to conceive the slaughter of innocents which this question and the like of it (of which there are several) will accomplish. Vagaries like this are not wanting in the question papers of the other examinations. But we have no space to notice them. We may observe, however, that one of the worthy examiners so far forgot his duty as to give an extract from Goldsmith's 'Deserted village," to explain, when that happened not to be the text-book of the class. After the examination the irregularity was brought to the notice of the authorities, and the order has since been issued that the question should be eliminated, and the marks assigned to it should be distributed among the remaining questions. This was perhaps the most convenient course to follow, but it is not quite fair to the examinees. Had the question been taken from the text-book, of the class many boys would have got all the marks instead of a fraction of them.

CERTAIN MERCHANTS, traders, and shopkeepers of Bara Bazar have, we see, submitted a letter to the Chamber of Commerce, praying that that body should change the hour of business from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. to 6 to 11 A. M. during the months of May and June, and to induce the Government to follow the example in the public offices. This was the practice in the early days of John Company, and is still followed in the North West.

SOME advocates of the Health Society have got up a memorial praying that the Suburban Municipality be incorporated with the Calcutta Corporation. The memorial does not point out the advantages which the incorporation is likely to effect, but it is not difficult to summarise them. The Suburbs now pay a house-tax of 7½ per cent. and a house service fee of about 2 per cent. Incorporated with Calcutta it will have to pay a ten per cent House Rate, a six per cent. Water Rate, a two and a half per cent. Police Rate, a two per cent. Lighting Rate, and a House Service Rate varying from 2 to 4 per cent. If civilisation be synnonymous with taxation, this increase of taxation will imply proportionate advancement of civilisation, and that is what the people should be by every means coaxed to accept.

THE so-called highest scientific authorities in the land, *i. e.* Mr. Cunningham and Dr. Payne, backed by 900 memorialists, in June last assured His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal that cholera mortality in Calcutta during the present hot season would be greater than what it was in March and April of 1884; His Honor accepted this as a correct estimate and on the strength of it appointed the Sanitary Commission and that confirmed the forecast with the weight of their authority. The Health Officer of the Municipality has, however, cruelly falsified these high authorities by his returns. Cholera mortality this year is considerably less. The problem now is whom should we believe?

THE *Indian Antiquary*, a Bombay monthly, has been for more time in the habit of carping at the archæological researches of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, and every now and then indulging in the dissemination of false and, not unoften, absurd charges against him. The Doctor rarely took any notice of these charges, as they were generally beneath contempt, and due entirely to the envy aud jealousy of the editor, Mr. Burgess. A charge of this kind appeared in the number for January last under the signature of Colonel Jacob, and as the editorial management of the periodical had at the time changed hands, it was supposed that the new editors, Mr. J. F. Fleet, of the Bombay Civil Service, and Captain R. C. Temple, Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, would not be so far wanting in fair-play and the ordinary amenities of literary criticism as to decline to correct the grossly incorrect and unfounded charge published by them. A reply was accordingly written in the mildest and most courteous terms, and sent on to the editors. But those gentlemen could not rise above the traditions of the *Indian Antiquary*, and, after some unmeaning or frivolous correspondence, declined to publish the letter. This put the learned Doctor into a false position. He could have well afforded to leave the charge unnoticed, for no carping of the *Indian Antiquary* can do any harm to his high literary reputation, and no oriental scholar could be mislead by it, but, having written the letter, he could scarcely sit quiet under the refusal. The letter was accordingly sent to the *Times of India*, in which, it was expected, it would be read by all those persons among whom the *Antiquary* finds a circulation, and has been published in it. It has since been republished in the *Englishman*. Its subject matter is not of much importance, but we reproduce it in another column for such readers as may be curious about it, and take this opportunity to record our emphatic protest against the conduct of the gentlemen concerned, who, in conducting a literary periodical largely, if not entirely, supported by Government for the purpose of providing scholars a medium for exchanging opinions on Indian antiquarian subjects, have shown themselves to be so utterly wanting in the English spirit of fair-play. Under any circumstance the habit of publishing false and malicious charges and then refusing to contradict them when their falsity and malice come to be proved, is worthy of the severest censure.

THE REPORT of the Syndicate shows the total income of the Calcutta University during the official year 1884-85 was Rs. 1,02,555-6-6. To this sum fees for the different examinations contributed Rs. 1,01,210. The total expense on account of the University during the same period was Rs. 40,730-9-9. This shows that the charges for fees were 150 per cent. more than what they should have been. Will the dons of the Senate take note of this? It affords a curious commentary on the charge which some Anglo-Indian journals indulge in about University education in Bengal being an eleemosynary affair.

THE latest news from the seat of war in the Soudan indicates an early cessation of hostilities. The London *Daily News* announces that at a cabinet Council, held on Tuesday last, "it was resolved to immediately recall General Graham's forces from Suakin." This news has not yet been confirmed, but messages from Suakin state that the operations in connexion with the laying of the Tramway to Berber has been suspended. The project may now be looked upon as abandoned. The expedition which was despatched against Osman Digma at Tamai, found the place abandoned by the enemy and the wells so befouled that, with the exception of a dirty black pool the water of which even the baggage animals would not drink, no water could be had. Under the circumstances the only thing that could be done was to burn down the abandoned town and then to retire to Suakin. The prospect of cooperation from the Italians *via* Mussawah and Kassala has melted away, as the Italians do not see their way to it. The only scheme now on the *tapis* is to make the Turks take up the task of fighting and "smashing" the Mahdi. Of course, the Porte, if forced, will be obliged to take up the quarrel, and may achieve some thing towards the "smashing" process under the guidance of England; but the affair until next autumn, may be looked upon as shelved. The pith of the matter is contained in Reuter's telegram of April 21 which runs thus: "Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons this evening, proposed a vote of credit of eleven millions sterling, whereof four and a half millions were for the last operations in the Soudan, and six and a half millions towards special preparations. The general situation necessitates the preparation of all available forces for service in the Soudan and elsewhere. It is not intended, however, under the circumstances, to undertake further offensive operations in the Soudan or to advance on Khartoum. British or Indian troops will continue to hold Suakin, but the Government has decided to suspend the construction of the Suakin-Berber Railway. Mr Gladstone further stated that the Government entirely adheres to its pledge to defend Egypt. The British troops, which are to be withdrawn from Egypt will constitute an additional Army Corps for service in India or elsewhere." There was once a talk of sending Lord Wolseley to Suakin; but it is now looked upon as mere gup. He stops at Cairo.

IT IS A mistake to suppose that when a person takes too earnestly to a thing he necessrialy rides his hobby to death. He may at times ride to name and fame. With a fair amount of newspaper help and persistent puffing in season and out of season, the effect of such persistency is marvellous,quite as successful as constant dinning and drumming in county fares. The art of advertizement, besides, has of late improved so vastly

that there is nothing which cannot be put forth with a fair prospect of success. A physician in search of practice may not issue a phalanx of sandwich girls to promenade the streets, touting for practice; but there is no impropriety in advertizing—doctor so and so of such and such Colleges "at home from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M." A N. B. might be added that separate waiting rooms are provided for ladies and gentlemen calling on the Dr.—it is so suggestive of overflowing practice! New-born societies find various modifications of this plan particularly convenient, and we are glad to notice that the Calcutta Health Society fully appreciates the advantages of keeping itself constantly before the public, both personally and through the medium of the press. It had, on Wednesday last, a lecture on cholera-*cum*-drainage by way of a supplement to Mr. Cunningham's oration on Theseus and Ariadne of the other day. A full report of the lecture has not yet been published; but no pains have been spared in following the rules of puff. Perhaps this was a little overdone when our familiar, old friend Tom Jones, who is as well known in Calcutta as the Ochterlony monument, was put forth labeled as "Mr. Thomas Jones, Barrister and Small Cause Court Judge," but it was needed in the interests of the infantile Society, which has to make its way in the world, and should therefore be overlooked. By the way how is it that our judges are so busy with sewage and the drainage when the sons of Esculapius who make the study of health their profession, are keeping themselves in the back ground? "People like wine and they like also water, but, water poured in an unrinsed wine-glass destroys the grand neutrality of both," at least so says the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table."

WE ARE glad to notice that Sir John Budd Phear, of Marpool, is to stand as Liberal Candidate for the new Honiton Division of Devonshire, in opposition to Sir John Kennaway, M.P. We agree with the *Indian Daily News* in thinking this to be an excellent arrangement, as Sir John Phear is well known and very popular throughout the district. "Since he returned from India he has taken an active part in local affairs and in Quarter Sessions business, and is generally regarded as one of the best Magistrates in the county. He is a decided Radical, a really practical politician, and a capital speaker."

THE FOLLOWING correspondence appears in the *Times of India*:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES OF INDIA.

Sir,—The editors of the *Indian Antiquary* having declined to publish the subjoined reply after giving circulation in their periodical to an unfair attack against me, I request the favour of your inserting the reply in your paper, through which alone I can reach the bulk of the readers of the *Indian Antiquary*.—Yours, &c.

RAJENDRALALA MITRA.

8, Maniktollah, Calcutta, March 1885.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE "INDIAN ANTIQUARY."

Gentlemen,—In the January number of the *Indian Antiquary*, p. 4, there is a paper by Lieutenant-Colonel Jacob on the Maha-narayana-Upanishad of the Black Yajur Veda, which necessitates a few remarks by me.

In commenting on my edition of the *Taittiriya Aranyaka* Colonel Jacob says that "the composition of the first *Anuvaka* of the tenth book (as given in my edition) is certainly unsupported by any MS. now extant!" He further complains, of want of "common sense" on my part in not following the commentary of Sayana, adding that "Dr. Rajendralala Mitra determined to follow the text of his manuscript A., in spite of the fact that it differed materially from Sayana's," and he illustrates this observation by saying that "the first *Anuvaka* proper consists of 140 lines, 33 *of which are not in the Bhashya which accompanies it*, while others appear there in a different order." And, finally, he comments on my reversing the order of the text, and of gluing the second *Anuvaka* on to the first "in a most unscholarly fashion."

As regards the first charge, if the composition of the *Anuvaka* in question is unsupported by *any* MS. now extant, what becomes of the MSS. followed by me? They are, I presume, "extant." I suppose my critic does not intend to imply that I invented the text irrespective of my MSS.

The second charge is totally incorrect. I *did* follow Sayana's commentary most faithfully, as I found it in my MSS., and did not at all reverse or tamper with its order. The example given is not intelligible to me. I do not understand what is meant by the words "the first *Anuvaka* proper consists of 140 lines." The text is divided into sections (*Anuvakas*), paragraphs (*Kandikas*), and sentences or verses. The divisions are arbitrary. As a rule, ten verses go to a paragraph, except in the case of the concluding paragraph, which frequently contains more than ten verses. A section is made up of several paragraphs; but it frequently comprises only one paragraph and a few verses, or even less than one paragraph. According to this arrangement, there are in the first *Anuvaka* 15 *Kandikas* with one verse extra in the last paragraph, making a total of 151 verses, and not 140, as stated by Colonel Jacob. These verses make up a total of 63 *Mantras*, and Sayana has explained them all, and I have given them exactly in the order in which Sayana has explained them. Assuming that Colonel Jacob has taken what I call verses to be "lines," I fail to perceive how he arrives at 140. Should he rely on his texts, they must be different from mine, and I had no access to them.

As regards the third charge of "gluing the second Anuvaka on to the first," the fault, if there be any, rests, not with me, but with the commentator, with reference to whom Colonel Jacob justly observes, "in publishing a text of this kind, with a verbal commentary by the renowned Sayana, it would seem but common sense that the former should, as far as possible, agree with that used by the commentator." Colonel Jacob, however, has not cited any of the instances in which I have departed from Sayana's commentary.

It would seem that Colonel Jacob has read neither the concluding part of my edition of the work, nor the note which I published in my edition with reference to the text. As the note explains the subject fully, I now quote it from page 910 of my edition. The original note is in Sanskrit; I reproduce it here in English:—

'At the beginning of this *Upanishad*, the commentator *(Bhashyakara)* has written thus: 'Of this work the number of *Anuvakas* differs in the different schools. Thus, the Dravidas read 64 *Anuvakas*; the Andhras, 80 *Anuvakas*; and the Karnatas, 74 *Anuvakas*, while others reckon 89 *Anuvakas*.' But in the manuscripts of the *Bhashya* obtained by me from different places, the commentary extends to only 64 *Anuvakas*, and this is avowed to be, and is obviously, complete; while, in the four manuscripts obtained by me of the text, there are 80 *Anuvakas*. In the summary of *Anuvakas* (*Anuvaka-sangraha*) of my text, the initials also of 80 *Anuvakas* have been cited. Again, of these *Anuvakas*, those which have been explained by the commentator do not always conform to, or preserve, the order of the text. In some places two *Anuvakas* have been reduced into one; at others a part of a paragraph of an *Anuvaka* has been accepted as a complete *Anuvaka*. Bearing this in mind, I have, for the sake of convenience of reference, printed this work according to the order of my MSS. of the commentary. Now I shall supply some *Anuvakas* of the text which have been omitted by the commentator. With a view to show the relation of the *Anuvakas*, and to point out the concordance of their numbers, this tabular statement is here printed.' It is not necessary to reproduce here the tabular statement, but the first entry in it (p. 911) shows that the first *Anuvaka* of the commentator includes the first and the second *Anuvakas* of the text.

The courses open to me in editing the *Aranyaka* were either to follow the commentator *verbatim*, and put in the omitted sections and parts of sections, at the end, or to print one of the larger recensions, and tear up the commentary so as to put its fragments as they were needed in different places, according to the order of the text selected, and to state in foot-notes the differences of arrangement thus caused. I adopted the first course; and, as a Hindu dealing with the work of an exegesist whom I hold in the highest veneration, and whose knowledge of the *Vedas* has never, in my opinion, been approached since his time, I could not think of any other. Should that course be stigmatised by the orientalists of Europe as "unscholarly," I must bear the stigma, but I cannot follow any other course.

RAJENDRALALA MITRA.

8, Maniktollah, Calcutta, January 31.

WE BEG to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications:

1. Returns of the Rail-Bourne Traffic of Bengal during the quarter ending the 31st December 1884.
2. The Calcutta Journal of Medicine for January 1885.
3. Indian Postal Guide, April 1885.
4. Sangsar Sangini.
5. Cook's Monthly Mail.
6. Baisaik Tutwa, No. 7.
7. The Fourth Annual Report of Her Highness the Maharani's Caste Girl's School, Mysore.

DR DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Dr. Sinclair Coghill, Physician to the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and diseases of the Chest, Ventnor, writes:—"For many years I have, in private practice, exclusively prescribed the Cod Liver Oil of Dr. de Jongh, for a large and intimate experience of its superiority as a remedial agent in appropriate cases to other Cod Liver Oils ignorantly lauded on account of their comparative tastelessness and lightness of colour. More recently I have had, in the Royal National Hospital for Consumption here, an opportunity of instituting a more extensive and systematic comparision, and I have convinced myself that in Tubercular and the various forms of Strumous Disease, Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil possesses greater therapeutic efficacy than any other Cod Liver Oil with which I am acquainted. It was especially noted, in a large number of cases in which the patients protested they had never been able to retain or digest other Cod Liver Oil, that Dr. de Jongh's Oil was not only tolerated, but taken readily, and with marked benefit, Dr. de Jongh's Oil is now the only Cod Liver Oil used in the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, *High* Holborn, London.

LOCAL.

TENANCY ACT MEETING.

Babu AMARENDRA NATH CHATTERJEA, Vakil, High Court, in support of the Resolution spoke as follows:

Maharajah Narendra Krishna, and gentlemen. The Committee of the Landholders, who have made arrangements for this meeting, have done me the honor of asking me to speak this evening in support of this motion. I feel much flattered by the compliment, and I beg leave to take this opportunity of thanking them for the honor thus done me in calling upon me to take part in this impressive demonstration in vindication of their just rights and in emphatic protest against the principle of an act of the legislature so odious and iniquitous (hear hear.) Sir, at this late hour, I do not purpose to inflict on you a long speech on the details of a subject which has been the topic of discussion for the last five years,—which has been so keenly debated in the Council chamber, and upon which the Press has commented so fully and freely. (hear hear.) Well, Sir, the battle fought here, and right manfully, as was to be expected from his extensive knowledge of the subject, and practical experience, by my learned and Hon'ble friend, Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjea, in the Council chamber, has to be fought over again: and it cannot, it must not be, that the zemindars should out of mere deference to the ruling authorities, give up the contest, and allow their valuable rights to be trampled upon and crushed out, without seeking for redress before the tribunal of public opinion in England. (hear, hear.) I am sure, Sir, how sad so ever our defeat may be, the victory achieved by Government against the landholders is neither honorable, nor, as I hope, lasting and decisive. For, in the first place, it has not been satisfactorily established, that there has been any valid necessity for this legislation which sweeps away the guaranteed rights of the zemindars, and in the next, the supporters of this legislation have in a manner admitted the rights of the zemindars, as conferred upon them by the Permanent Settlement, but they assert the paramount right of Government to interfere with that settlement. (hear, hear.) The zemindars have every right to demand, and there is much justice on their side, in demanding the strictest proof, that as a body they have been and are the oppressors of the peasantry. An unjust and cruel stigma has been thrown upon them, and as gentlemen at any rate, they are bound, to clear their character by an appeal to the impartial verdict of the British Parliament. In 1880, at a Quarterly General Meeting of the British Indian Association held in this Hall, on the 1st October, the rent question came on for discussion. On that occasion, I took the liberty of pointing out that inasmuch as the general prosperity of the country depended so much on the amicable relations between Zemindars and Ryots, no legislation could possibly give satisfaction, or secure the contentment of the parties affected by it, which did not proceed upon a clear ascertainment of the questions at issue. I urged that the Government should adopt a procedure which would be more satisfactory, namely, the appointment of a commission to take evidence on the important sections affecting the rights of the zemindars and ryots; the adoption of such a procedure would have been in conformity with the practice obtaining in the House of Commons; and the Government here had the case of the Indigo Commission before them. This recommendation was subsequently made by our late lamented friend, Hon'ble Rai Kristodas Paul; and my Lord Chief Justice, in his valuable minute, also insisted upon this course being taken. I also find, that at a meeting held in London and presided over by Lord Weymis, the same

view was taken by some of the speakers, notably by Mr. Buckland, late Senior Member of the Board of Revenue, a retired Indian Officer of great repute and experience. I am sorry to say that this suggestion has been disregarded, and the Government has proceeded to legislate without giving the zemindars and the ryots an opportunity of stating and substantiating their grievances. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) I have no doubt, Sir, that the opinion of the great men of the Rent Commission, and the powerful officials who have declared themselves on the subject are of great weight. (cries of Oh, Oh.); but, Sir, there is some distinction which we lawyers always draw between opinions and findings upon evidence. (hear, hear.) We have had a great deal too much in the shape of opinion, but nothing in the shape of facts, supported by the sanction of oath, that the zemindars are a set of oppressors. (hear hear). Well, the zemindars have in favour, of the view they take of their rights, the opinion of the highest judicial authority in the land, that of His Lordship the Chief Justice Sir Richard Garth, whose impartial and independent attitude in this great Rent controversy, would extort the admiration of his bitterest enemies. This great and good man has in consequence been personally libelled and attacked most unworthily by a Secretary of the Government, in a libellous minute printed and circulated extensively, and for which the libeller has been allowed to go off unpunished.(Loud cries of hear, hear). Another high authority snpports the position taken up by the zemindars. That eminent Judge, Mr. Justice Field, who never enters into any matter without going into the bottom of it, has in his able and exhaustive minute recorded his conclusion that the Rent-law changes now enacted are an unwarranted interference with the vested rights of the Zemindars. (Cheers.) The speaker then entered into an elaborate examination of the principles of the Act, and contended with great force that no lawyer with any knowledge of the simplest principles of law would justify the intermeddling with the vested rights of the Landlords. The Permanent Settlement concluded with the Zemindars was a contract, by which the parties to it and their representatives and successors were legally bound. Having regard to the public opinion in Bengal as to the character of the public functionaries, who then filled the various offices during the period following revolutions in Bengal at the time of Vansittart and Warren Hastings, Lord Cornwallis, the first nobleman sent out to govern the country, for his predecessors were the Company's Servants, thought it expedient to gain the confidence of the people by annexing to this settlement the formalities of a legislative ordinance, and by securing to it the assent of the Ruling authorities in England; but it was not the less, on that account, a contract. It was not a piece of legislation, which the Government could make or unmake at pleasure. The Act now under discussion deliberately broke that contract. The speaker adverted to the infringements of the Permanent Settlement, under Act X of 1859, and the Zemindary Dawk Act, and the Road Cess Act. (hear, hear). The Act now under comment has been termed generally an Act of spoliation and confiscation. Surely, it would be unwise in Government to enforce an Act which was so objectionable. The speaker then dwelt on the political consequences of this measure, as likely to disturb the confidence of the people in the good faith of Government, and the disastrous effect it would have in shaking the faith of the native princes and feudatories in the assurances and treaties on which they rely,—a most lamentable result. The speaker exhorted the Zemindars not to give up their point, but to go on agitating, and he had every confidence in the good sense of the English people, and their love of fair play and justice, and their traditional horror of the revolutionary principles underlying this legislation of the Indian Government, in inducing them to condemn this law, as a violation of the sacred rights of property and withhold from it their support and countenance. The speaker sat down amidst loud applause.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Mofussil Subscriptions.	Rs.	As.	P.
J. Blackwell Esq., Sonepur	5	8	0
R. Robinson Esq., Bhaugulpore	2	0	0
Dr. C. C. Ghose, Benares	6	0	0
A. C. Mitra Esq, Canning Town	6	10	0
Moulvi Azizur Rohoman, Sibsagore	13	4	0
Babu Robee Chunder Gangoly, Habeegunge	6	0	0
,, Tareeny Churn Sircar, Arrah	6	0	0
,, Bunko Behary Buksee, Pakour	6	10	0
,, Mohendra Nath Seal, Ghattal	6	10	0
,, Hem Chunder Bannerjee, Benares	13	4	0
,, Kaminy Kumar Sen, Secretary Anuoda School, Sarail	13	4	0
,, Bidyadhur Das, Fureedpore	13	4	0
,, Mohendra Nath Bhattacharjee, Bouleah	13	4	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette—*April 22nd* 1885.

General—11th April—Baboo Ashutosh Gupta, Asst Magte and Colr, Lohardugga, to perform the functions of a Colr under Act VII, B C, of 1880 in that dist.

13th April—Mr C A Samuells, C S, is apptd to be Secy to the Central Examination Comtee, Calcutta, vice Mr A W Paul, resigned.

14th April—Baboo Doorga Das Choudhry, Dy Colr, Dinagpore, is vested with the powers of a Colr under Act IX (B C.) of 1880, to be exercised under the control and supervision of the Colr of the dist.

15th April—Mr H Savage, Offg Jt-Magte and Dy Colr Dinagpore, to act as Magte and Collr of Mymensingh during absence, on leave, of Mr E G Glazier.

Mr D Cameron, Offg Jt-Magte and Dy Colr, Mozufferpore to perform the functions of a colr under sec 4 of Act VII (B C) of 1880 in that dist.

Mr R F Rampini, C S, has been granted by H M's Secy of State for India an extension of furlough up to 30th July 1885.

20th April—Baboo Ashootosh Gupta, Dy Magte and Dy Colr and Persl Asst to the Commr of the Chittagong Divn, to act as Persl Asst to the Commr of the Burdwan Divn, during the absence, on deputn, of Baboo Annada Prosad Ghose.

Mr T D Moran, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, to act as Persl Asst to Commr of the Chittagong Divn, during the absence, on deputn, of Baboo Ashootosh Gupta.

21 April—Mr C H Reily, Asst Secy to the Govt of Bengal, in the Leg Dept, is apptd sub pro tem Chief Presy Magte, Calcutta, and Judge of the court for the trial of Pilots, during absence, on leave, of Mr F J Maraden.

Mr G Leith Offg Dy Supdt and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, to act, in addn to his own duties, Asst Secy to the Govt of Bengal, in the Leg Dept, during absence, on deputn, of Mr C H Reily.

Mr W Grindlay, CS reported his departure fram India on furlough on 4th inst.

Registration—21st April—Baboo Protap Chunder Ghose, Dist Registrar of Assurances and Registrar of Jt Stock Companies, Calcutta, leave for one month from 18th inst.

Baboo Nilmoney Dey is apptd to act as Dist Registrar of Assurances and Registrar of Jt Stock Companies, Calcutta, during absence, on leave, of Baboo Protap Chundra Ghose.

Education—13 h April,—Baboo Sib Naryan Trivedi, Dy Inspr of Schools Gya, acted in Class IV of the Bengal Subordinate Educl Service, during absence, on leave, granted in Novr 1884, of Baboo Bidyadhur Dass Dy Inspr of Schools, Furreedpore.

14th April,—Baboo Jagot Chundra Benerjee, Dy Inspr of Schools, Nuddea, to act as Asst Inspr of Schools Presy Divn, during the absence on deputation, of Baboo Radhika Prassanna Mookerjee.

Babu Beni Madhub De, M A., Hd Master of the Howrah Zillah School, to be Asst Inspr of Schools, Burdwan Divn, from 1st April 1885, vice Babu Brahma Mohun Mullick.

Opium —16th April—Mr P J Luard, Sub-Dy Opium Agent, Aligarh, leave for one year, from date on which he availed himself of it.

Mr C M Jerdon, Sub-Dy Opium Agent, Sultanpore, to act as Sub-Dy Opium Agent, Aligarh, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. P J Luard.

Mr. G R Carter, Asst Sub Dy Opium Agent, is apptd to act as Sub-Dy Opium Agent, Sultanpore, during absence, on deptn, of Mr C M Jerdon.

21st April—Mr H G C Clarke, Asst Sub-Dy Opium Agent Gya, acted as Sub-Dy Opium Agent at Gya, from 3rd to 17th Jany last, inclusive.

Road Cess.—13th April—The following gentlemen to be members of the Magoorah Branch Road Committee, in Jessore :

Baboo Rash Behary Bose, Baboo Gopi Mohun Sircar, Baboo Akrurchunder Sikdar, Babu Haronath Bhaduri, Babu Prosunno Kumar Bhattacharjee, and Baboo Ambica Charan Sircar.

14th April—The following gentlemen to be members of Khulna Dist Road Committee :—

Baboo Okhoy Kumar Bose, Mr. E. Staples, Baboo Debendro Nath Sen, Baboo Gobinda Chanda Ghose, Moonshee Mozrel Huq, Baboo Banibhosan Rai, Baboo Rajanee Mohun Sarkar, Baboo Upendro Nath Mozoomdar, Baboo Tarinee Charan Sen, Baboo Mathura Nath Nag, Baboo Ashootosh Rai, and Baboo Bhuban Mohun Rai.

Judicial Department—13th April—Mr W H Thompson, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Magte of the first class.

14th April—Baboo Ashutosh Banerjee, B, L, is apptd to act as a Munsif in the dist of Hooghly, to be ordinarily stationed at Jehanabad, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Mohendro Nath Ghose, from date on which he joined his apptmt.

2 st April—The Lieut-Govr accepts the resignation tendered by Mr H M Weatherall of his appt of Hony Mgate, of the Comillah Bench, in the dist of Tipperah.

The Lieut-Govr accepts the resignation tendered by Baboo Hem Chunder Gossain of his appointment of Hony Magte, of the Serampore General Bench, in the dist of Hooghly.

Advertisements.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold pursuant to a Decree of the High Court of Judicature, at Fort William in Bengal, in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction, made in Suit No. 366 of 1880 (wherein Brojendro Nath Mullick, Soshee Bhooshun Mullick, Tariney Churn Mullick, Gooroo Churn Mullick otherwise called Haradhone Mullick and Fool Coomary Dassee are plaintiffs and Gopaul Chunder Mullick and Bonomally Mullick and Protab Chunder Mullick, Mahatab Chunder Mullick, Aftap Chunder Mullick are Defendents) and dated the 25th day of August 1884 by C. T. Davis Esq., the Receiver, appointed in this suit at his Office No. 9, Hastings Street, Calcutta on Saturday the 16th day of May next, at the hour of 12 o'clock at noon the followiug properties *viz.*

1.—All that two storied brick-built tenanted house situate at and being No. 90 Sobhabazar Street in the town of Calcutta containing by estimation 8 cattahs 4 chittacks and 9 square-feet of land and bounded on the North Golabari and land of Fuckeer Chand Shaw, on the east by the house of Gireedhur Pramanick and a lane leading to Koomartolee, on the south by the Sobhabazar Street, and on the west by premises or Thakoorbatee of Gireedhur Shaw and Boido Nauth Shaw.

2.—All that undivided one-fourth part or share of and in the tenanted land No. 118 Cotton Street in Calcutta aforesaid, containing by estimation 1 cattah 19 square-feet be the same a little more or less and bounded on the north and east by the Godowns of Gooroo Churn Sen, on the south by the Cotton Street and on the west by the house of Ramlall Paul.

3.—All that undivided one-fourth part or share of and in the tenanted land No. 87/88 Cotton Street, in Calcutta aforesaid, containing by estimation 9 chittacks and 9 sqare-feet, be the same a little more or less and bounded on the north by the said Cotton Street, on the east by the tenanted house of Doyal Paul, on the south by the house of Tarra Churn Sing and on the west by the tenanted house of Narain Sing.

The conditions of sale and abstract of title may be seen at the Office of Babu Bhoobun Mohun Dass, Solicitor for the plaintiffs and the title deeds at the Office of the said Babu Bhoobun Mohun Dass, at No. 7 Old Post Office Street.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed Tenders are invited and will be received by the undersigned up to 2 P.M. of the 11 may 1885 for the supply of 2 lacs cubic feet of indegenous stone up to 31st March 1886.

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4. Each tender must be accompanied by sample of stone in a sealed bag and with a deposit of Rs. 5000 as earnest money, which will be returned in case the tender is not accepted.

5. The party whose tender is accepted shall be required to sign a deed of contract duly stamped and registered at his own expense within 2 weeks of the acceptance of his tender, in case of failure the earnest money shall be forfeited. The deposit of Rs. 5000. will be retained as security for the due fulfilment of the contract.

6. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

7. Any other information required can be obtained on application.

UDOY NARAIN SINGH,
Superintendent of stores.

17th April, 1885.

A Special Meeting of the Commissioners for the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Thursday the 30th of April 1885 at the close of the Quarterly Meeting.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. Application for Jute License for premises No. 98/1 Sabha Bazar Street.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

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Mohendro Nath Pyne.

To be sold by public auction by the official Assignee at his Office No. 8 Strand, Calcutta, on Monday the 27th day of April 1885, at the hour of 1 P. M. pursuant to an order of Court made in the above matter on and bearing date the 11th day of March 1885, with the concurrence of the Mortgagees, the under-mentioned Property appertaining to the above estate of the above named Insolvents.

Lot No. 1.—All that upper-roomed brick built House containing by estimation 1 biggah 7 cattahs and 8 chittacks, more or less, situate at No. 27 Darponarain Tagore's Street in Calcutta and butted and bounded as follows ; on the east partly by the Land Premises of Lallmohun Roy, partly by the House and premises of the late Jaggomohun Mullick and partly by the Public Drain, on the west by the houses, Lands and Premises of Gopaul Chunder Auddy, Brojochunder Auddy and others, on the north by public Drain, and on the south partly by the land of the said Lallmohun Roy and partly by a Public Drain, the same being in Sootanooty and held free of rent.

Lot No. 2.—All that piece or parcel of land or ground, containing by estimation 1 cottah and 5 chittacks, more or less, situate at No. 15 Gangooly's Lane, Juggernath Ghat, Durmahatta Street in Calcutta, being a portion of the Holding No. 7 and Block No. XXIII. North Division, Calcutta, (which holding pay rent to the Government of rupee one and four annas and eleven pie) and butted and bounded on the north by the House of Bhootmoney Dassee, on the south by Gangooly's Lane, on the east by the Premises No. 14, and on the west partly by the House of Shamachurn Mullick deceased and partly by the House of Doorgachurn Paul.

Lot No 3.—All that Bharee Land, containing by estimation 373 biggahs 3 cattahs and 7 chittacks, situate at East Noabad, Holding No. 4, sub-division 1. called Mousa East Noabad, Division 2, Delhi Oltadinghee, bounded on the north by Holding No. 3, east by Holding No. 2 Khettercanto Mookerjee, on the south by No. 5 Rajnarain Dutt, and on the west by Holding Nos. 60 and 59 of sub-division No. 2, paying an annual revenue of Rs. 94-10-9 being in the Registration District of Alipore and in the Sub-District of Sealdah Thanna Bhangur,

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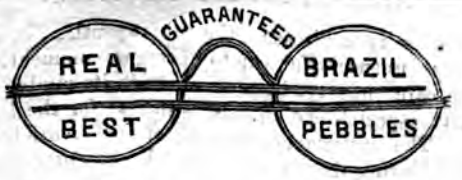

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LOCAL.

TENANCY ACT MEETING.

A MEETING of the landholders of Bengal and Behar was held on Monday last, afternoon (20th April) at the Hall of the British Indian Association for the purpose of adopting a memorial to the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India, praying for the disallowance of the Bengal Tenancy Act. The meeting was very largely attended, zemindars, or their representatives, from all parts of the province being present. The utmost order prevailed during the proceedings, and it was remarkable how unanimous the speakers were in condemning the measure, not only as unnecessary, but as confiscatory of vested rights, and, as such, calculated to embitter the feelings of the classes concerned against the Government. On the motion of the Hon'ble Rai Jai Prakash Lall Bahadur, Maharaja Norendra Krishna, the President of the British Indian Association, was called to the chair. The following are the names of most of those who were present:—

Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur; Babu Joogul Kissore Singh of Durbhungah; Moulvie Syud Ali Ahmed, zemindar, Gya; Imamuddin Khan, representative of the Landholders' Association, Tirhoot; Babu Kunjo Lall Banerjea; Bhuggobuttyprosunno Roy, Bali: Dr. Rajendralala Mitra; Raja Harendra Krishna Bahadur; Mr. St. Clair Grant and Mr. Bryce of Bhaugulpore; Babus Jotee Prosad Roy, Krishnaghur; Suttya Nath Roy, B. A., Krishnaghur; Joykissen Mookerjea and Shib Narain Mookerjea, Utterparah; Moulvie Hatim Ally, Agent of Raja Hurbullub Narain Singh, Sonborsa; Syud Latafat Hossein, Mookhtear of Immamburgh Begum, Patna; Syud Hedayet Hossein, Behar, Dewan of the Raja of Giddhore; Bakhsha Hursahay, Giddhore; Maharaja Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore, K. C. S. I.; Babus Jogendro Narain Acharjee Chowdry, Mooktagacha; Saroda Krishna Acharjee Chowdry; Jodulall Mullick, Syud Abdus Sobhan Chowdry, Bogra; Syud Newab Ali Chowdry; Mozuffer Ali Khan, Mymensing; Babus Gopal Roy, Bogra; Gobin Singh, Ramhurry Singh, Bindaprosad Sing, Bachoo Singh, Sanchur Singh, Dadoor Singh, Ramon Singh, and Dook Dewan Singh, Arrah; Raghuram Singh, and Futteh Bahadur Singh, Doomraon; Gobind Nath Chowdry, Pubna; Monohur Mookerjee, Satish Chunder Roy, Ramkrishna, Doomraon; Damoodur Dass Burmon, Bijoykissen Mookerjee, Amarendranath Chatterjee, Afzuluddin Ahmed, Babus Sitanath Roy, Janokinath Roy; Mr. H. L. Wetherall, Agent of Newab Abdul Guuny, Bahadur, C. I. E., Dacca; Mr. H. M. Rustomjee, Newab Meer Mahomed Ali, Babus Mothoor Mohun Mookerjee, Kissory Mohun Gossain, Nundolal Gossain, Moulvi Syed Muazum Hossein, Syed Muzuffer Hossein, Syed Mahomed Hossein of Burrisal; Babus Suranath Chowdry, Hurrymohun Bose, Shamachurn Lahoory, Hon'ble Joyprokash Lall, Rai Bahadur,, Doomraon; Babu Hurbans Sahai, Meer Najabat Hossein, Agent of Meer Wajid Hossein, Patna; Moonshee Rohat Hossein, Mozufferpore; Moulvie Mohur Rahimuddin, Patna; Moonshee Abdul Ghani, Gya; Moulvie Nusret Hossein; Moulvie Ali Ahmed, Patna; Moonshee Ali Buksh, Patna; Syed Ameer Jan, Patna; Mahomed Ismael; Abdul Sobhan, Agent of Futteh Mahommed Khan, Monghyr; Raja Poorno Chunder Singh, Paikpara; J. J. J. Keswick, Esq.; Babus Jagat Chunder Roy Chowdry, Suttojeebun Banerjee, Chunder Mohun Banerjea, Grish Chunder Ghose, Rughunundun Prosad, Nursingh Narain, Rughubans Shahai, Sarut Singh, Shahabad; Mohesh Chunder Chowdry, Grijasunker Mozumdar, Obhoysunker Mozumdar, Bhoyrub Chunder Banerjee, Jagat Chunder Sen, Mookhtar of Maharaja Jogendranath Roy of Nattore; Josodanundon Paramanick, Nuddea; Rashbehary Roy, Bykantonath Bose, Kumar Hurrishnath Tagore, Babus Saligram Singh, Joteekumar Mookerjee, Kaliprosunno Ghose, Prosad Dass Dutt, Shamlall Gossein, Agent of Hafiz Mahomed Ali Khan of Ateah; Babus Hurrish Chunder Chuckerbutty, Rajkristo Banerjee, Romanath Ghose, Kristo Gopal Ghose, Chunder Coomar Mundle; Goursoonder Moitra, Mookhtar of Ranee Luchmee Kissen of Moorshedabad; Nemychand Roy Chowdry, Ram Chunder Roy Chowdry, Preocoomar Roy Chowdry of Burrisal; Dwarkaanth Mitra, Durga Churn Bhoomic, Dwarkanath Chatterjee, and many others.

The Maharaja NARENDRA KRISHNA Bahadur, in taking the chair, spoke as follows:—Gentlemen, we have met here to-day to memorialize the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India to veto the Bengal Tenancy Act which, as you all know, was passed by His Excellency the Viceroy just before the breaking up of the last session of the imperial Legislative Council. We have repeatedly pointed out the innovations introduced into the new law as calculated to benefit neither the zemindars nor the ryots. It is to be greatly regretted that the principles which govern legislators in passing a law were wholly overlooked in this instance. The memorial now on the table fully goes into our objections, and it would be quite superfluous for me to dwell upon them in making needless repetitions. I feel sure that gentlemen possessing better and mature experience of the working of the mofussil courts than I can pretend to have, will be able to give you a correct idea how the Act is unsuited to the present state of the country, and how much it will engender litigation in its worst phases. At this crisis when the political horizon is deeply overcast, and the prelusive sounds of a collision between two Great Powers come to us across the frontier, far be it from us to do anything which may hamper the Government and wear even the semblance of a demonstration. No words, I am sure, could adequately express the depth of our loyalty and the devotedness of our attachment to the British Throne, but that loyalty, gentlemen, I take it, is not inconsistent with an humble, respectful, earnest appeal to our august and gracious Sovereign to redress our just and legitimate grievance. Earl Wemyss, Lord Bramwell, Sir Herbert Maxwell and other distinguished statesmen, who have generously taken up our cause in both Houses of Parliament, deserve our warmest thanks. We are also grateful to Earl Kimberley for intimating to us that this objectionable law would receive his careful consideration after the receipt of our memorial. (Applause.)

The Secretary then read the following list of names of gentlemen who expressed their hearty sympathy with the meeting, and regret at their inability to attend the meeting owing to some unavoidable cause:—Maharaja of Durbhanga, Maharaja Sheoprosad Sing, Giddhore; Maharaja of Dumraon, Raja of Sunbursa, Bhagulpur; Maharani Brojo Sundari Debi, Nattore, Rajshye; Newab Abdul Gunny C. S. I., Dacca; Maharaj Kumar Ramessur Singh, Durbhanga; Rani Mon Mohini Debi, Putia; Raja Shama Sunker Roy, Teota; Ray Sitab Chunder Nahar Bahadur, Azimgunge; Newab Ashan Ulla Khan Bahadur, Dacca; Rai Romoni Mohun Chowdry Bahadur, Tooshbhander Rungpore; Mr. Archibald Hills, Patkabari, Meherpur; Mr. J. R. Hollow, Amtollah, Mymensing; Mr. M. B. Morrison, Bhagulpore; Mr. M. L. Macnaughten, Nischindpore; Babus Sasi Kumar Sen, Kirtipasa; Issur Chandra Chowdry, Balien via Raigunge; Sosanko Mohun Roy, Royail, Dacca; Harendra Mohun Roy, Do. Sudhendu Mohun Roy, Do. Romoni Mohun Roy, Do. Hara Chundra Chowdry, Town Sherepore; Run Bahadur Singh, Tikari; Gogon Chundra Chowdry, Chittagong; Jogendra Mohun Roy, Royail, Dacca; Devendra Mohun Roy, Do. Rajkumar Dutta, Noakhally; Muddon Mohun Bysack, Dacca; Jodu Nath Khan, Ula; Janoky Nath Mookerjee, Boinchee; Chunder Mohun Chowdry, Nabinagur; Shama Sunker Mojoomdar, Banibaha, Furridpore; Hurrish Chunder Chowdry, Malda, Chowdry Gopendra Nandan Das Mohapatra, Midnapore; Babus Radha Ramon Munshi, Sherepore, Bograh; Parvati Sunker Roy Chowdry, Teota; Nilmadhab Chatterjee, Dinagepore Rajbari; Joy Chunder Nag, Barady; Bhooban Mohun Nag, Do. Aurun Kant Nag, Do. Dwarka Nath Pal (Chowdry, Ranaghat; Annada Charan Biswas, Jalabari, Barisal, Kamini Kumar Nag, Barady; Buddon Chunder Chowdry, Hooghly; Mahmoodally Khan, Karatia; Ally Koreem, Tipperah; Babu Ishan Chunder Chowdry, Noakhally, Kapil Uddin Ahmed Chowdry, Kartikpore; Fazley Ally Chowdry, Ulamia; Kazi Syed Reza Hossain, Patna city; Babu Kali Mohun Das, Bhowanipore; Sreemuty Rammoni Chawdurani, Modungunj; Babus Chunder Mohun Sen, Manickgunje; Brojo Behari Roy, Dacca; Roop Lal Roy, Do., Ram Chunder Banerji, Do., Probode Chunder Das, Do. Herambo Nath Banerjee Chowdhry, Medinimondal; Hem Chundra Chowdry, Ambaria; Mohamed Gazi Chowdry Comillah, Babus Surjo Kant Banerjee Chowdry, Pubna; Jogendra Kissore Roy Chowdry, Ramgopalpore; Rajkumar Roy, Madhabdi, Dacca; Sreemutty Biswari Debi Chowdhurani, Gowripore, Mymensing; Babu Nalinaksha Dutta, Kasiadanga.

He also read the following extracts from the letters of Messrs. Macnaughten and Hollow for the information of the meeting:—

Mr. MACNAUGHTEN wrote:—I regret that I shall be unable to attend your meeting on 20th instant, or speech thereat, but the vigorous protest which you propose to make has my warmest sympathy and I wish I could appear personally and speak in support of same. I give you as a motto for your meeting '*Nil desperandum, magne est veritas et prevalebit.*'

Mr. HOLLOW of Mymensing stated:—I am in receipt of your letter of the 6th instant requesting my presence on the 20th April next for the purpose of adopting a memorial to the Secretary of State for India praying for the disallowance of the Bengal Tenancy Act, with which I would be only too glad to comply, but being located in an out-of-the-way station, and debarred from all facility for speedy travelling, and having but a short and insufficient time at my disposal, I deeply regret my inability to attend the meeting on the date prescribed. Nevertheless, you have my entire sympathy with the movement in contemplation, being in my opinion, the last and only resource for averting a calamity which seriously threatens to overwhelm these fair provinces of Bengal with ruin and confusion by the inconsiderate and hasty legislation of the Tenancy Act.

We are deeply indebted to you, Sir, for representing our doomed cause so ably in the Legislative Council of India, notwithstanding, the opposition which you had to encounter. With the exception of yourself, and the Maharaja of Durbhanga, it was evident from the hostility displayed towards the amendments proposed which as expected were invariably lost, that the honorable members were pre-determined to pass the Bill—notwithstanding all reasonable arguments against it. To pass the Bill was the determination at which they had arrived—pass it must—and so it has been passed to the incalculable detriment of the landholder.

I have read the Act in its present form very carefully, and can fully realize the ruin which it will entail both upon landlord and tenant. The action of Government in hurrying the Bengal Tenancy Bill and giving its assent in spite of the protests of the parties interested therein, cannot be justified on any ground. There was no crying necessity or impending danger, to extenuate its speedy legislation. Public remonstrances have been ignored; statements openly challenging the accuracy of the Secretariat of Bengal that they were legislating against facts and figures, were passed by "in a conspiracy of silence"—betraying a total ignorance of economic and statistical condition of Bengal. The impartial *dictum* of a high authority like the Chief Justice, Sir Richard Garth, was set aside; and the earnest solicitations of the people demanding an important and searching enquiry into the existing state of things and of the allegations brought against the zemindar as extortioner, tyrant, and rack-renter were beneath their notice.

The zemindars *cannot* and *shall not* be reconciled to a measure that means ultimate ruin and destruction to their generation. It is a suicidal policy and ought to be consigned to the flame.

It is absolutely necessary that we should rise with one voice and heart—*but not in arms*—against this obnoxious measure that is forced upon us—besiege the Council Chamber and stick to its walls until we are bayoneted out or this ruinous Act is withdrawn. This sort of demonstration will surely tend to convince our rulers that because we feel the great injustice that has been done to us, we are goaded to this extremity. It is better to be bayoneted or shot than to sit down and passively behold the ruin of our class.

What has the zemindar done to deserve this treatment? Has he been disloyal, seditious, or ungrateful? If it be expedient to do away with the Permanent Settlement, as to confiscate his ancestral estates, let it be openly declared so, and he will I am sure resign them for a valuable consideration,—as it is better to be a pensioner than to be harrassed and ruined for a mere *name*, and a thankless task of managing one's own estate.

I cannot comprehend why the *rayat* is denied freedom of contract? Are they *beasts* or *babies* that Government must needs cradle them up by hampering their voluntary action.

In conclusion, I must apologize for encroaching on your time more than I intended. But my feelings were too strong to have said less. It is now necessary—to use the memorable words of Chatham—"to instruct our rulers in the language of truth as the smoothness of flattery cannot save us in this rugged and awful crisis."

The CHAIRMAN then called upon Babu Joykissen Mookerjee to move the first resolution, which read as follows:—"That in the deliberate opinion of this Meeting the Bengal Tenancy Act, recently passed by His Excellency the Viceroy and his Council, makes serious inroads upon vested rights of property guaranteed by the Permanent Settlement; that it involves a breach of the faith of the British nation in reliance upon which the landholders of Bengal and Behar have invested an immense amount of capital on landed property; and that it introduces changes in the existing law and ancient custom of the country which are calculated to work most injuriously on the rights, interests and conditions both of landholders and the ryots."

Babu JOYKISSEN MOOKERJEE said :—The action of the Government in passing the Tenancy Bill is simply unaccountable. The landholders in a body earnestly and repeatedly besought the Government not to pass a measure which seriously encroached upon their vested rights, and threw the greatest obstacles in the way, not only of settlements of rent, but also of recovery of undisputed rents. The ryots, from different parts of these provinces, complained of the various changes which the law proposed to make in their relations with their landlords, and high officers of State warned the Government against introducing into the law and custom of these provinces changes which would inevitably plunge the country into a sea of litigation. Nothing, however, has availed. The Bill has been passed, because certain officers of the Bengal Government wished it to be passed. On the basis of assumptions which have been proved to be wholly groundless, and of an interpretation of the Regulations of Lord Cornwallis, which is opposed to the opinions of the highest judicial authorities in the land, a law has been passed which is as unjust to the landholders as it is unsuited to the conditions of the people. The landholders earnestly prayed for an enquiry into their conduct in relation to their tenants, and into the present condition of the tenants, but their prayers were not listened to. The public were not even allowed an opportunity of examining and discussing the important changes made in the Bill by the Select Committee. The original scope of the Bill was entirely lost sight of. Landholders experience the greatest difficulty in recovering their rents and the cesses which they have to collect for Government from their ryots. I know of no landholder who does not suffer more or less heavily by reason of the gratuitous obligation imposed upon him by Government. And yet, instead of giving him the promised facilities for the recovery of the rents and cesses, the Act will immeasurably increase the difficulty of collection by reason of its having done away with distraint and ejectment, and providing for executive interference in every petty transaction with his ryots. Government have, perhaps, their own reasons for passing with such haste a measure which has filled the country with discontent, and given the people a very poor idea of the fidelity of the British nation to their plighted faith and honour. But I fail to conceive of any. With these remarks I beg to move the first resolution. (Applause.)

Babu HARBANS SAHAI seconded the resolution. He said, he could not pretend to criticise and consider the Tenancy Bill, lately passed by the Imperial Legislative Council, in sufficiently adequate terms. He could only say that the whole body of the zemindars of Bengal and Behar were much alarmed and excited by the passing of this mischievous Bill, and they honestly believed that its provisions would introduce revolutionary changes and innovations, and confiscate to a very great extent their vested rights, which had been solemnly guaranteed to them by the Permanent Settlement ; that it would disturb and unsettle the existing arrangements and friendly relations between landlord and tenant, and needlessly plunge them into protracted litigation, which would be sure to result in the utter ruin and destruction of both parties (hear, hear, and applause.) The zemindars believed that the object of the Act was not really to regulate with a fair and impartial balance the different interest possessed by the zemindars and ryots in the soil of these provinces, but a persistent spirit of hostility towards the zemindars animated almost its every section, and that its provisions would bring to certain and speedy ruin the edifice, which at an enormous outlay of capital, had been built up during the lapse of a century in the belief of the sacredness of the Permanent Settlement and in the good faith of the British Government (applause.) The Act reduced the landlord to the status of a mere annuitant in the soil, literally tied him hand and foot, and made it impossible *for him* to transact with his tenant even the most ordinary routine business ; reduced to a minimum his ability to collect his rents, and kept suspended over his head the threat of a reduction of rent, not on account of economical causes, but as a premium to rioting and crime on the part of his tenant. He had no control over the manner in which the ryot might choose to use his land ; he had no lien upon the crop except in the shape of a distraint, which the procedure prescribed by the Act rendered worse than useless for all practical purposes, while he had been deprived of his ancient rights to eject his occupancy tenant in execution of rent decree for non-payment of rent. In most cases the right of private distraint, and the power of ejectment in cases of non-payment of rent, were the only two effective legal weapons in his hand to ensure the practical realisation of rent. Liberty of contract has also been abolished It would have been much simpler if the Government had boldly and frankly dispossessed the zemindar, and undertaken the management of *every village in Bengal and Behar* in its own hand, appointed a zealous revenue officer of the type of an Irish Radical (the number of such, unfortunately for the country, was large in the Civil Service) to settle or reduce the rent to what he might consider fair and reasonable, and to pay the zemindars the surplus, if any, which in most cases would be *nil*. In conclusion, the speaker said :—The question that we have now to consider is what should be our line of action after the Bill has been passed by the Supreme Government, in spite of the opposition of both the landlords and tenants. Well, gentlemen, our case has not become entirely hopeless. We have yet to appeal to the Secretary of State for India, the British Parliament, and the British public. These are the tribunals which we must now appeal to as our last recourse at this critical juncture, and after hearing their verdict, we shall be able to say whether British faith has been violated or not. We are confident of the justness of our case, of the farseeing wisdom of the British Parliament, and the elevated character of British faith and we have every reason to hope that they will not hesitate to see that the fair name and fame of Great Britain are kept unsullied , that the solemn contracts and covenants of the British Government are preserved inviolate ; and above all, that the seeds of disaffection and discontent are not sown by this ill-considered and impolitic Act among the zemindars, the proverbially loyal subjects of the British Government. Let us then lay before the British public, among whom justice is recognised as the greatest virtue our grievances and an emphatic protest against this Act in a calm and respectful manner, fully explaining the circumstances under which the Permanent Settlement was affected, the importance and solemnity that have been scrupulously attached to the plighted faith of the British Government in connection with the Permanent Settlement contract, the immense outlay of capital in improving and purchasing the landed property in Bengal and Behar, the greater part of which was at the time of settlement covered with jungle ; with the sense of security in the undisturbed enjoyment of the full zemindari rights and profits guaranteed under the terms of the Settlement, the revolutionary changes that are now made in the rent law, the unwarrantable invasion and confiscation of the zemindar's vested rights and cherished privileges, and the verge of destruction to which both zemindars and ryots are brought to under the drastic provision of the Tenancy Act. Let us, as loyal subjects, appeal to the good sense of the British nation, and point out to them that the good faith of the British Government is in serious jeopardy, and I am sure a patient and impartial hearing will be granted to you, and ultimate justice will be done to your cause. (Loud applause.)

Babu AMARENDRA NATH CHATTERJEE supported the resolution in a vigorous speech.

(See page 200.)

Baboo LALL GOBIND also supported the resolution in an effective speech in the vernacular, after which it was put to the meeting and carried with applause.

Newab MIR MAHOMED ALI moved the second resolution. He said :—I have been requested to move the resolution which I hold in my hand. With all my diffidence, I have accepted it with honor. Gentlemen, this Bill has been discussed threadbare for the last five years. It is superfluous for me to repeat them again. You are aware this Bill was first originated by the complaint of the zemindars to give them facilities for the speedy realization of rent. You are fully cognizant how severely the Sunset Law operates on the zemindars, when there is default of payment of the Government revenue ; but unfortunately no remedy has been given to us. Far from doing anything to that effect, the Legislature has made an encroachment upon our vested rights given by the Permanent Settlement. Gentlemen, we have asked for bread ; they have given us stone. Freedom of contract which tends to an amicable settlement between the ryots and the zemindars has been in a manner stopped. The patriarchal feelings which existed from the days of yore are ended. The operation of this Act will ruin the country by overwhelming and continued litigation. The only parties I believe to be benefitted by this Act are Government and lawyers, as no doubt their sources of income will be increased. It may be said that the Government have allowed our representatives to take part in the Council, but it is a sham and a farce. My hon'ble friend, Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjee had proposed 195 amendments, out of which he carried 3 or 5. The others were deemed inadmissible. This Bill has satisfied none of the parties concerned, whether a zemindar, a ryot, or a middleman. They have strongly complained of the injustice done to them, but the legislature turns a deaf ear to their complaints. What wonder is it that that which has been disapproved by all has been passed into law. The only course now left for us is to go to England, and lay our grievances before Her Majesty's Council and both the Houses of Parliament. Confident of their justice and impartiality, I have a sanguine hope that our grievances will be heard and redressed.

Mr. H. LOFTUS WEATHERALL, agent to Nawabs Abdool Gunny and Ashanoollah, of Dacca, seconded the resolution. He had no desire to inflict a speech on the meeting, as there was not much which he could say which would add to the weight of the arguments used against the passing of the measure. He would simply tell them that the meeting had the most cordial support of both the Nawabs whom he represented (applause.)

Babu SRISH CHUNDER BOSE in supporting the resolution said :—I rise, Sir, to lend the weight of my feeble support to the Resolution just so ably moved and seconded by Nawab Mir Mahamed Ali and Mr. Weatheral respectively. Considering the lateness of the hour, I shall best consult the convenience of this Meeting by abstaining myself from passing any detailed criticism upon the Bengal Tenancy Act, which introduced such innovations and provisions as were calculated to benefit materially the land-jobbing money-lenders, contrary to the intention of the legislature, at the expense of the zemindar and the ryot and to unsettle their present relations by bringing constant interference of the Civil Court and the Revenue authorities to bear upon them in every ordinary transaction of their mutual interests. As the *Statesman* has most ably and eloquently demolished all the charges heaped upon the devoted head of the unfortunate zemindars by a marvellous display of unassailable facts and figures and as the principles and the prominent details of the Act have been just dealt with by the mover and the seconder of the first Resolution, I do not consider it necessary to tread the beaten track already trodden by them. The way in which this aspect of affairs was pressed upon the notice of the Imperial Legislative Council, with a remarkable degree of tact and ability, by my hon'ble friend Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjee, fully justifies me to add the force of my humble testimony to the gratifying compliment just so deservedly paid to him by the supporter of the first Resolution.

I shall now attempt to show whether and to what extent the Government was justified under Clause 1, Section 8, Regulation 17, 1793, to interfere directly between the zemindar and the tenant and whether such direct interference ought to be accompanied by substantial compensation or not? Assuming that the Government had the legislative power resumed under the said Clause to interfere for promotion of the ryot's welfare, but still it is evident that ordinary interference for the advancement of the ryot's interest is one thing, and extraordinary interference for infringement with the vested rights of the landlord is quite another thing, and that being so, no hue and cry would have been raised had the Government acted up to the spirit of the clause without attempting to effect re-distribution of property as contemplated by the Act. That the legislature had in view to restrict the legislative power to the exercise of more ordinary interference, for the furtherance of the ryots' interest and not contemplated direct interference with the vested rights of the landlord, appears to be clear beyond any possibility of doubt from the terms of the Regulation 2 of 1793 which runs thus : "No power will then exist in the country by which the rights vested in the landholders could be infringed or the value of landed property affected." When in face of such express prohibition conveyed in the terms of the regulation, the Government has taken the law in its own hands, such direct interference on the part of the ruling power for the ryot's welfare at the expense of the landlord's right can not but lead to involve breach of faith, and in giving expression to this view, I can count upon the support of no less a mighty authority than the Parliamentary Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons of 1832 which says "unless the Government should either by public or private purchase, acquire the zemindary tenure, it would, under the existing circumstances, be deemed a breach of faith to interfere directly between the zemindar and the tenant for the purpose of fixing the amount of the land tax demandable from the latter under the settlement of 1792-1793." Admitting for the sake of argument that the Government had absolute lagislative power on the question without any restriction whatever, that the Permanent Settlement was nothing but a mere piece of waste paper so far as the guarantee of any proprietary right to the landlord was concerned, and that the huge host of British administrations here laboured under a sad delusion for a century as to its real interpretation and that it was subsequently reserved for two young civilians to explain its true construction, but still none can

conscientiously deny that common fairness and the ordinary principles of equity and justice should decree adequate compensation for the so-called infringement of the proprietary rights of the landlord and this view of the question has been subscribed to by the opinion of no less an eminent personage than Mr. Holt Mackenzie who was examined as a witness by the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1832 and is reported to have said on the point of the right of Government interference. "If done without their consent, we must, I apprehend, interfere by a new law, and be prepared to give the zemindars compensation or allow deduction of Revenue." Hence to make the two ends meet, it would be a bare act of equitable justice on the part of the Government to buy up all the zemindary right at 20 years' purchase and invest the sale proceeds in Government Securities in such a way as to secure for any zemindar his present income derived from his zemindari, since these zemindars, relying on the faith and honor of British Government, have spared no pains and purse to turn into a smiling land all the unreclaimed jungles surrendered to them absolutely by way of compensation for the ruinous assessment by the Permanent Settlement which was forced upon them by Lord Cornwallis in 1793, not with a view to benefit either the zemindar or the ryot, but with a view to replenish the empty exchequer of the East India Company.

The measure is said to have been conceived no doubt to save the ryot from the "horrors of eviction," but unfortunately such has been the practical wisdom underlying the prominent features of the Act, that even the very class in whose interest the legislative machinery is said to have been moved, after making due allowance for the benevolent intentions of the Government, hesitated not a moment to join hand in hand with the zemindar to condemn this obnoxious measure in no measured terms. When the unanimous public verdict of the two conflicting interests affected by the measure has repeatedly pointed in favour of the withdrawal of the measure, the justice of pushing forward this obnoxious bill and of sealing the same with legislative and executive sanction in the teeth of national opposition, is a question that can be only settled by reference to the British Parliament and by appeal to the sense of justice and national conscience of England, which has however been found wanting to recognise the principle "Give the devil his due." In consideration of the universal denunciation raised against the bill by the press and the public, combined with the general impression as to the strength and justice of our cause, I make no hesitation to support the Resolution standing in my name.

Babu Koylash Chunder Bose in further supporting the resolution said :—

Maharajahs, Rajahs and gentlemen,—The task of further supporting the second resolution has devolved upon me. I come here as a delegate of the East Bengal Landholders' Association at Dacca and I have travelled a distance of nearly 190 miles to place before you and the tribunal of public opinion the views of the Association to which I belong—views in connection with the most obnoxious portions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill recently passed into law. The Bill contains, gentlemen, provisions which are of the most revolutionary character and now that it has been passed into law will bring about ruin of both zemindars and ryots and deprive the landholders of the rights conferred upon them by the Permanent Settlement. It has been said that in as much as the Bill has been opposed by both landholders and ryots alike, it is a good legislative measure and will leadto salutary results when the provisions of this Act shall be brought into operation. I do not know by what authority has this conclusion been drawn that a Bill opposed by all parties concerned is the most salutary legislation that could ever be devised. Gentlemen, I dont like to tire your patience by entering into a long discussion, of details, of facts and circumstances tending to show how the act when brought into operation will lead to the ruin of both zemindars and ryots, because other gentlemen possessing far greater abilities than I do, have already made their observations on the same subject this evening. But as I have come from a quater of Estern Bengal which is full of landholders and tenure-holders of different classes and grades, who will be most prejudicially affected by the most obnoxious provisions of this Act, I feel it my bounden duty to refer to the most disastrous of them as they will affect the owners of landed properties in the districts of Dacca, Furreedpore, Backergunge, Mymensingh and Tipperah. The 5th clause of section 5 is most injurious to the vested rights of zemindars as it makes the holder of a jote of 100 bighas a tenure-holder by presumption. There are numerous jotedars holding more than 100 bigahs in several Pergunnahs in Dacca, Mymensingh, Furreedpore and Backergunge and if the holdings of such tenants bepresumed to be tenures which may under the provisions of this Act be transferred, the zemindars necessarily lose those proprietary rights which they have hitherto enjoyed and shall be reduced into the position of mere rent collectors.

Section 11 providing for transfer of common holdings of 100 bighas makes a serious inroad upon the vested rights of zemindars conferred upon them by the Permanent Settlement. Hence transferability, which His Excellency the Viceroy observed in his speech in the Council, have been indirectly conceded and recognised. This will entail upon the zemindars total loss of rights, the enjoyment of which along with that of other rights, induced them to lay out vast sums of money to improve their estates. Gentlemen, if this is not wholesale confiscation of and invasion upon the vested rights of zemindars I don't know what it is.

Section 21 is most injurious to the rights of zemindars as it confers upon settled ryots a right of occupancy in any tract of land they might be holding for any short period along with the other occupancy holdings in the same village.

The commutation of rent in kind to rent in money as provided by section 40 is also most injurious, as it gives collectors and sub-divisional officers option and powers indirectly to reduce the income of the landlords.

Sections 56 and 58 will tell heavily upon petty landholders, who shall have to keep up an expensive establishment and pay gomastahs to grant receipts and retain a counter-foil of the same.

Section 112, empowering revenue officers to reduce existing rents, is calculated to bring about great changes of a most injurious character in the zemindary system in Bengal and Behar, as it gives extensive and unlimited powers to those officers to reduce rent much to the detriment of landholders.

Section 120, which lays down a rule for determination of proprietor's private lands, will most materially affect the rights of landholders with regard to demesne lands in as much their inability to prove that they have been in possession of such lands for twelve continuous years before the passing of this Act will deprive them of the right to hold them as such lands. Is this not, gentlemen, a great hardship, a flagrant injustice to the landholders? Does it not deprive them of the rights of holding for their own use property which they purchased at enormous cost and which they have every reason in law and equity to call their own? A provision like this will bring about a disastrous change in the relations between landlord and tenant in Bengal and Behar. It will be the last drop in the cup of woe of the ill-fated class who have become an eye sore to the governing body of this country. Chapter XV of the Act has abolished the freedom of contract. An Act the tendency of which is to make null and void all contracts entered into by persons with their eyes open and at their free will and consent, seems clearly to be a most retrograde measure. I need hardly say that such an Act with a suicidal policy can hardly be tolerated by any section of the community.

Gentlemen, it has been said by some that the Permanent Settlement of Lord Cornwallis is the greatest obstacle and stumbling block in the way of the progress and prosperity of the ryots in Bengal and Behar. I really find no truth in this assertion. With my experience of the state and conditions of the ryots of Eastern Bengal I can, gentlemen, tell you most boldly and emphatically that it is owing to the Permanent Settlement that these ryots are so prosperous and happy. The abolition of this great Magna Charta of the zemindars and the imposition of fresh cesses which a parental Legislature is so kindly shaping for us, would bring pressure upon the landholders in the shape of increased items payable to Government and a pressure upon zemindars would compel them to guard their rights strictly and jealously. With increased cesses, with the ruthless ruin and the better strife of class against class which the Act threatens to let loose upon the population of Bengal and Behar from its Pandora box the tenantry of these fair Provinces will be reduced to the same dire poverty as the peasantry of the Presidencies of Bombay and Madras. Gentlemen, I can safely say that the provisions of this Act will neither benefit landholders nor ryots. It will only profit one party, namely, the Government, by the extensive sale of judicial stamps owing to protracted and most expensive litigation while the provisions of the Act will lead to a litigation which will ruin both Zemindars and ryots alike and reduce all zemindaries into Khas mahals. The Bill with the amendments recently made was not translated and published in the official Gazette in order to invite public criticism on the same. Only a few days before the Bill was passed into law some 14 sections were added and 45 recast. It is a matter of regret that the public were not allowed time to consider the probable effect of these additions on the interests of landholders and ryots. I therefore ask you to adopt the second Resolution and have no doubt you will all carry it by acclamation.

Raja Poorno Chunder Singh moved the third and last resolution, which was as follows :

"That the following gentlemen be appointed aCommittee for preparing memorials for submission to the Secretary of State for India, and to both the Houses of Parliament under the signature of the Chairman of this meeting :—Members of the Committee :—His Highness the Hon'ble the Maharajah of Durbhanga, His Highness the Maharaja of Doomraon, His Highness the Maharajah of Bettiah, Maharajah Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Bahadur, K.C.S.I., J.J.J. Keswick, Esq., Maharajah Norendro Krishna Bahadur, Raja Hurbullub Narayan, Babu Joykissen Mookerjea, Babu Doorga Churn Law, C.I.E. Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, L.L. D., C. I. E., Babus Mohini Mohun Roy, Kali Mohun Das, Rai Koonjo Lal Banerjea, Bahadur, Babu Jogendro Chunder Ghose, Babu Surjya Narayan Singh, and Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mookerjea.

The motion, which was duly seconded, was supported by Babu Saligram Sing, who said that the names of the gentlemen who were to form the members of the Committee to draw up the memorial, would, he was sure, inspire confidence in all, that the work which had been entrusted to them would be properly carried out, and that the memorial, which would be drawn up, would be an unrepresentative one. (Applause.)

Babu Jugul Kissore also supported the resolution in a vigorous and telling speech. He said that so many speeches had been made on the subject, and been productive of so little good, that there was a tendency which, happily, had not yet disclosed itself, to be despondent. Still he thought they should make one more effort. At that meeting they saw among them gentlemen—hoary-headed gentlemen from the distant districts of Shahabad and Patna—whom no wire pulling or external influences would have been able to bring down. They were men who were not easily moved, and who would not have come down *en masse* if they did not themselves feel that their vital interests were at stake (hear hear,) When lately the Government in England were plainly told that neither the zemindar nor the ryot liked the Bill, Mr. Cross, the Under-Secretary of State, got up and said that, in that case, it must be a very just and palatable measure, (laughter.) He would leave it to the meeting to say whether that remark could be called a pertinent remark. The remark, he was bound to say, did not display much common sense, and was only in keeping with the utter absence of all information which the Under-Secretary possessed on the subject. The speaker warmly supported the proposition, that they should memorialise both Houses of Parliament, (loud applause.)

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried with acclamation.

Babu Harbans Sahai having proposed, and the Hon'ble Rai Jai Prakash Lall, Bahadoor, having seconded, a vote of thanks to the chair, the meeting separated.

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DR. SINCLAIR

Has invented the Accoustic Plate, which he combines with his Artificial Teeth. This plate makes a wonderful improvement to the voice. They have been supplied to the leading artists in the world, and have been pronounced by them to be a great success. No singer should be without one.

IN CONSEQUENCE

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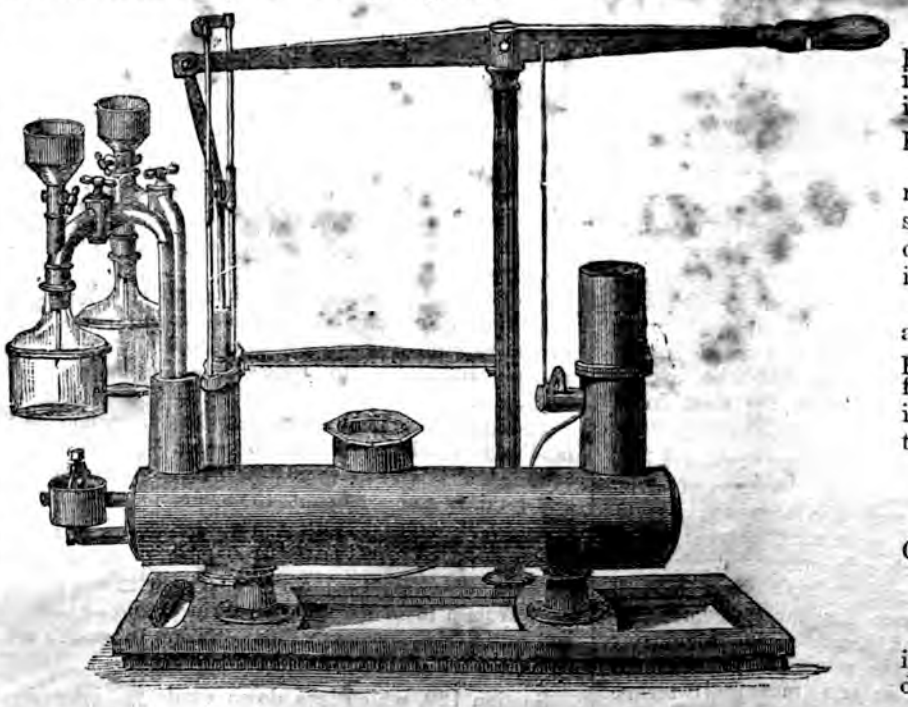

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